

# THE LITERARY WORLD.

## A Gazette for AUTHORS, READERS, AND PUBLISHERS.

No. 9.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1847.

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### THE LITERARY WORLD.

No. IX. April 3, 1847.

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NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1847.

## Reviews.

Poems. By R. W. Emerson. Boston : James Munroe & Co., 1846, 16mo., pp. 251.

ELEGANT mediocrity has in the past literature of America clearly the advantage of native strength and beauty. To be free of faults has been a safer passport to the welcome of reviews and drawing rooms than to be fertile of excellences. The fingers and the comma have been more considered in our poetry than the music and spirit which give to poetry all its worth. The door has been closely held against all comers who failed to approach seeking admittance, measuring as they came along after the manner of Aguecheek, the fashionable cinq-pace or coranto. To the neglect of these forms and observances we attribute in a great degree the comparatively cold reception of Mr. Emerson among his countrymen. Although a New Englander in his origin, he has had to contend with a species of criticism which belongs more particularly to that portion of the country, and which has not, till very recently, relaxed in its judgments even in behalf of one of its most favored and gifted sons. That the publication of this collection should have brought him, as it certainly has, a greater harvest of praises than has attended any of his previous efforts, is an argument as well of his prevailing merit as of an approaching change in the spirit of criticism in that quarter. We think we discern in the somewhat eager and earnest laudation of this volume in quarters heretofore cold and distrustful toward the compositions of this and other writers of a kindred spirit, a consciousness that their past idols are not sufficient for them : that some whom they hastily worshipped have been found on a closer inspection to be little better than the dry sticks on the altar, whom their most fervent prayers and adorations could not prevail upon for a moment to kindle with fire from heaven. In Mr. Emerson they have, or seem to believe they have, suddenly discovered a poetical Elijah, and the eastern reviews and journals are accordingly in a blaze, in strange contrast with the frozen silence of the past. There is one spot of critical ground, however, which we believe will still remain inaccessible to the genius of the newly recognised bard ; and which will gloomily refuse to take the fire. Our readers will at once understand by this the torpid and respectable North American Review. Charn he ever so wisely, we are afraid that calm old adder slumbering upon the lawn of Harvard will remain deaf to his incantations. The author of "Mithridates," however, whose oriental experiences have familiarized him with serpents, will, we are quite confident, outlive the encounter, and we should be by no means surprised if he should, in the long run, prove to be the better conjurer of the two.

Our interest in the present volume lies not in Mr. Emerson's speculations, in the consideration of any system of belief or philosophy, he may or may not have, in his sentiments as chief or as pupil in any school of thinkers—but simply in ascertaining what amount of genius for poetical writing belongs to him, and how much he has, in this collection, contributed to the properly considered poetical literature of the country. For the rest, that which we find to condemn, and which is aside from the just and successful exercise of his poetical talents, we shall be quit of it in a few words from Dr. Johnson, who long ago, in his review of Cowley and the metaphysical poets, with

some differences, disposed of this whole class of cases. "The most heterogeneous ideas are yoked by violence together ; nature and art are ransacked for illustrations, comparisons and allusions ; their learning instructs, and their subtlety surprises ; but the reader commonly thinks his improvement dearly bought, and though he sometimes admires, is seldom pleased. From this account of their compositions it will be readily inferred, that they were not successful in representing or moving the affections. As they were wholly employed on something unexpected or surprising, they had no regard to that uniformity of sentiment which enables us to conceive and to excite the pains and the pleasure of the mind ; they never inquired what, on any occasion, they should have said or done ; but wrote rather as beholders than partakers of human nature ; as beings looking upon good and evil impassive and at leisure ; as epicurean deities, making remarks on the actions of men, and the vicissitudes of life, without interest and without emotion. Their courtship was void of fondness and their lamentation of sorrow." \* \* Their attempts were always analytic ; they broke every image into fragments ; and could no more represent, by their slender conceits and labored particularities, the chief prospects of nature, or the scenes of life, than he, who dissects a sun-beam with a prism, can exhibit the wide effulgence of a summer noon. What they wanted, however, of the sublime, they endeavored to supply by hyperbole ; their amplification had its limits ; they left not only reason, but fancy, behind them ; and produced combinations of confused magnificence, that not only could not be credited, but could not be imagined."

To this we need add nothing. If we were disposed to dwell upon the character of Mr. Emerson's intellect in this respect, we should rather take the occasion of the publication of one of his volumes of "Essays," to which, with a few slight and inconsiderable changes, portions of this present collection might with the greatest propriety be transferred. What, then, are Mr. Emerson's substantial and distinctive merits as a poetical writer ? A brief poem published as "The Apology," and which might have been most appropriately employed as the motto of the book, furnishes at the same time an explanation and an example of his chief faculty as a poet.

## THE APOLOGY.

" Think me not unkind and rude  
That I walk alone in grove and glen ;  
I go to the god of the wood  
To fetch his word to men.  
  
" Tax not my sloth that I  
Fold my arms beside the brook ;  
Each cloud that floated in the sky  
Writes a letter in my book.  
  
" Chide me not, laborious hand,  
For the idle flowers I brought ;  
Every aster in my hand  
Goes home loaded with a thought.  
  
" There was never mystery  
But 'tis figured in the flowers ;  
Was never secret history  
But birds tell it in the bowers.  
  
" One harvest from thy field  
Homeward brought the oxen strong ;  
A second crop thy acres yield,  
Which I gather in a song."

Here, it will be noticed, there is more about the thing than of the thing itself. He regards objects more in reference to certain subtle trains of thought and fancy, than in their relations to the actual world of flesh and blood. Being thus freed of the necessity of actual truth and keeping in time and place, by the delineation of real life, and the beings and emotions of real life, it matters little whether his text be Hermione or Mary Brown, whether it

be chosen from East or West ; and accordingly his illustrations, neglecting what is immediate and present, take a distant range, although, for appearance sake, he sometimes introduces in the line Monadoc, Concord, and New England—but these are not to be taken for the Monadoc, Concord, and New England of that actual geographical position, but as Utopian places so named by the poet, figures of speech.

He outflies, therefore, all the necessary and concrete conditions under which humanity is ordinarily presented, and acknowledges only a mysterious something, a gentle and universal link which connects and underlies Asia and America, Africa and Europe as one.

His chief capital as a poetical writer consists in the profound belief of a mighty secret in nature, animating, connecting, irradiating, solving all things, which is worth all external things in a mass, which pervades and transcends them all, which it is worth the world and all the best effort of the world to discover, and to discover which all other business, callings, avocations, should be laid aside ; and he has an Ideal Man who is constantly on the search, and whom to delineate so engaged, is the pleasure, and the chief success of our author. The Ideal Man, we have a shrewd suspicion, is no other than a first-rate man of genius, of the order poetical. Under all the titles, "Problem," "Fable," "Ode," "Blight," "Dirge," "Threnody," this is the substantial subject, and under the various names of "Alphonso," "Mithridates," "Bacchus," "Xenophanes," this the character that flourishes. In many passages this secret is most beautifully hinted at or shadowed forth : and the portraiture of the gifted seer often admirably drawn. This spirit is finely introduced in the poem, which is, perhaps, the best known in popular circulation, of all his collection.

## THE PROBLEM.

" I like a church ; I like a cowl ;  
I love a prophet of the soul ;  
And on my heart monastic aisles  
Fall like sweet strains, or pensive smiles ;  
Yet not for all his faith can see  
Would I that cowled churchman be.  
  
" Why should the vest on him allure,  
Which I could not on me endure ?  
  
" Not from a vain or shallow thought  
His awful Jove young Phidias brought ;  
Never from lips of cunning fell  
The thrilling Delphic oracle ;  
Out from the heart of nature rolled  
The burdens of the Bible old ;  
The litanies of nations came,  
Like the volcano's tongue of flame,  
Up from the burning core below,—  
The canticles of love and woe ;  
The hand that rounded Peter's dome,  
And groined the aisles of Christian Rome,  
Wrought in sad sincerity ;  
Himself from God he could not free ;  
He builded better than he knew ;—  
The conscious stone to beauty grew.  
  
" Know'st thou what wove yon woodbird's nest  
Of leaves, and feathers from her breast ?  
Or how the fish outbuilt her shell,  
Painting with morn each annual cell ?  
Or how the sacred pine-tree adds  
To her old leaves new myriads ?  
Such and so grow these holy piles,  
Whilst love and terror laid the tiles.  
Earth proudly wears the Parthenon,  
As the best gem upon her zone ;  
And Morning opes with haste her lids,  
To gaze upon the Pyramids ;  
O'er England's abbeys bends the sky,  
As on its friends with kindred eye ;  
For out of Thought's interior sphere,  
These wonders rose to upper air ;  
And Nature gladly gave them place,  
Adopted them into her race,  
And granted them an equal date  
With Andes and with Ararat."

In the verses darkly entitled "Each and All," we have it in some most melodious lines.

" All are needed by each one ;  
Nothing is fair or good alone.

I thought the sparrow's note from heaven,  
Singing at dawn from the alder bough ;  
I brought him home, in his nest, at even ;  
He sings the song, but it pleases not now,  
For I did not bring home the river and sky ;—  
He sang to my ear,—they sang to my eye."

And again, in the guise of an immortal spirit conferring favors.

" 'Tis his study and delight  
To bless that creature day and night;  
From all evils to defend her ;  
In her lap to pour all splendor ;  
To ransack earth for riches rare,  
And fetch her stars to deck her hair :  
He mixes music with her thoughts,  
And saddens her with heavenly doubts."

Again he follows them as shining guides—

" Long I followed happy guides,  
I could never reach their sides ;  
Their step is forth, and, ere the day,  
Breaks up their languor, and away.  
Keen my sense, my heart was young,  
Right good-will my sinews strung,  
But no speed of mine avails  
To hunt upon their shining trails.  
On and away, their hastening feet  
Make the morning proud and sweet  
Flowers they strew, I catch the scent ;  
Or tone of silver instrument  
Leaves on the wind melodious trace ;  
Yet I could never see their face."

Then as the spirit of Beauty—

" Lavish, lavish promiser,  
Nigh persuading gods to err !  
Guest of million painted forms,  
Which in turn thy glory warms :  
The frailest leaf, the many bark,  
The acorn's cup, the rainbow's arc,  
The swinging spider's silver line,  
The ruby of the drop of wine,  
The shining pebble of the pond,  
Thou inscribest with a bond,  
In thy momentary play,  
Would bankrupt nature to repay."

In Hermione, we have it harmonizing the movement of the mind with the motion of the bird.

" On a mound an Arab lay,  
And sung his sweet regrets,  
And told his amulets :  
The summer bird  
His sorrow heard,  
And, when he heaved a sigh profound,  
The sympathetic swallow swept the ground."

And for the Ideal Man, the Searcher of the Secret, we have many pictures of him, and often painted in most engaging colors. He is the Hero of the Wood-notes.

" And such I knew, a forest seer,  
A minstrel of the natural year,  
Foreteller of the vernal ices,  
Wise harbinger of spheres and tides,  
A lover true, who knew by heart  
Each joy the mountain dales impart ;  
It seemed that Nature could not raise  
A plant in any secret place,  
In quaking bog, on snowy hill,  
Beneath the grass that shades the rill,  
Under the snow, between the rocks,  
In damp fields known to bird and fox,  
But he would come in the very hour  
It opened in its virgin bower,  
As if a sunbeam showed the place,  
And tell its long-descended race.  
It seemed as if the breezes brought him ;  
It seemed as if the sparrows taught him ;  
As if by secret sight he knew  
Where, in far fields, the orchis grew.  
Many hap fall in the field  
Seldom seen by wishful eyes,  
But all her shows did Nature yield,  
To please and win this pilgrim wise.  
He saw the partridge drum in the woods ;  
He heard the woodcock's evening hymn ;  
He found the tawny thrush's brood ;  
And the shy hawk did wait for him ;  
What others did at distance hear,  
And guessed within the thicket's gloom,  
Was showed to this philosopher,  
And at his bidding seemed to come."

In Merlin :

" The kingly bard  
Must smite the chords rudely and hard,  
As with hammer or with mace :  
That they may render back  
Artful thunder, which conveys  
Secrets of the solar track,  
Sparks of the supersolar blaze.  
Merlin's blows are strokes of fate,  
Chiming with the forest tone,  
When boughs buffet boughs in the wood

Chiming with the gasp and moan  
Of the ice-imprisoned flood ;  
With the pulse of many hearts ;  
With the voice of orators ;  
With the din of city arts ;  
With the cannonade of wars ;  
With the marches of the brave ;  
And prayers of might from martyrs' cave."

Merlin may be Ralph Waldo Emerson ; for this seems to be quite as pointedly the system of versification adopted by the New England poet. The Ideal Man is presented again in the character of Bacchus, and at the very height of his revelling, seems to be satisfied with a draught from the same secret crypt—*The* (as Captain Cuttle significantly suggests to his friend, the mathematical instrument-maker).

" Bring me wine, but wine which never grew  
In the belly of the grape,  
Or grew on vine whose tap-roots, reaching through  
Under the Andes to the Cape,  
Suffered no savor of the earth to escape.

" Let its grapes the morn salute  
From a nocturnal root,  
Which feels the acrid juice  
Of Styx and Erebus ;  
And turns the woe of Night,  
By its own craft, to a more rich delight.

" We buy ashes for bread ;  
We buy diluted wine ;  
Give me of the true.—  
Whose ample leaves and tendrils curled  
Among the silver hills of heaven,  
Draw everlasting dew ;  
Wine of wine,  
Blood of the world,  
Form of forms, and mould of statutes,  
That I intoxicated.  
And by the draught assimilated,  
May float at pleasure through all natures ;  
The bird-language rightly spell,  
And that which roses say so well."

What is this wonderful, all-embracing, all-sufficient secret ? Simply, we take it, the sympathy with nature which belongs to all the better and nobler spirits of the world, and by which her finer issues are caught and appreciated. In Mr. Emerson's nature, all external objects are regarded merely in relation to the intellect, in its creative and constructive qualities, in reference to beauty and proportion and fitness, as in works of art. This is the aspect of nature remotest from the general interest of mankind. The English poet, Wordsworth, comes a step nearer to humanity by employing external objects in the illustration and enforcement of moral truth, of which a thousand examples will occur to our readers. His reception is, accordingly, *ceteris paribus*, a degree nearer popularity than Mr. Emerson's. In Lord Byron we have the external world identified with human passion, sweeping a still wider and more animated circle of readers. Take an example from the two of these writers most widely separated. Mr. Emerson laments the loss of a lovely boy :

" Returned this day, the south wind searches,  
And finds young pines and budding birches ;  
But finds not the budding man ;  
Nature, who lost him, cannot remake him ;  
Fate let him fail, Fate can't retake him ;  
Nature, Fate, Men, him seek in vain."

What tone does Lord Byron strike for a similar occasion ?

" There have been tears and breaking hearts for thee,  
And mine were nothing had I such to give :  
But when I stood beneath the fresh green tree,  
Which living waves where thou didst cease to live,  
And saw around me the wide field revive,  
With fruits and fertile promise, and the spring  
Came forth her work of gladness to contrive,  
With all her reckless birds upon the wing,  
*I turned from all she brought to all she could not bring.*"

In one we have the voice of lamentation lost in a vague speculation on fate—interesting only to the intellect : in the other, piercing to the very well-springs of the heart. There is a range, even beyond Byron, in which but one writer in our language, as yet, walks alone : the delineation in which all these elements are grandly and nobly summoned to one

centre, and made, from a single personage, to utter the whole heaped-up force of the intellectual, moral and passionate nature. In the King Lear of Shakspeare this is achieved with the highest success.

In the quotations we have already made, and in the strictures attending them, we have, we believe, done justice to the spirit of the portions of the volume which are most peculiar and characteristic. For the rest, such portions as do not, as we before suggested, properly belong to his prose essays, are occasional, incidental and fugitive. Some of these are respectable, others rise to a degree of excellence often before attained in this country, and many are to be given over to utter condemnation, as obscurely conceived and badly rhymed. Two or three only give us an idea of a general poetical ability, which would enable Mr. Emerson to contend in the open field against the ordinary and popular poets of the language, looking for his inspiration to ordinary sympathies and ordinary subjects. In this class we have (with recollections of Sir Walter Raleigh)

#### GOOD-BYE.

" Good-bye, proud world ! I'm going home :  
Thou art not my friend, and I'm not thine.  
Long through thy weary crowds I roam ;  
A river-ark on the ocean brine,  
Long I've been tossed like the driven foam ;  
But now, proud world ! I'm going home.

" Good-bye to Flattery's fawning face ;  
To Grandeur with his wise grimace ;  
To Upstart Wealth's averted eye ;  
To supple Office, low and high ;  
To crowded halls, to court and street ;  
To frozen hearts and hastening feet ;  
To those who go, and those who come ;  
Good-bye, proud world ! I'm going home.

" I am going to my own hearth-stone,  
Bosomed in yon green hills alone,—  
A secret nook in a pleasant land,  
Whose groves the frolic fairies planned ;  
Where arches green, the livelong day,  
Echo the blackbird's roundelay,  
And vulgar feet have never trod  
A spot that is sacred to thought and God.

" O, when I am safe in my sylvan home,  
I tread on the pride of Greece and Rome ;  
And when I am stretched beneath the pines,  
Where the evening star so holy shines,  
I laugh at the lore and the pride of man,  
At the sophist schools, and the learned clan ;  
For what are they all, in their high conceit,  
When man in the bush with God may meet ?"

The little plaintive sonnet—

#### THE RHODORA :

*On being asked, Whence is the Flower ?*

" In May, when sea-winds pierced our solitudes,  
I found the fresh Rhodora in the woods,  
Spreading its leafless blooms in a damp nook,  
To please the desert and the sluggish brook.  
The purple petals, fallen in the pool,  
Made the black water with their beauty gay ;  
Here might the red-bird come his plumes to cool,  
And court the flower that cheapens his array.  
Rhodora ! if the sages ask thee why  
This charm is wasted on the earth and sky,  
Tell them, dear, that if eyes were made for seeing,  
Then Beauty is its own excuse for being :  
Why thou wert there, O rival of the rose !  
I never thought to ask, I never knew ;  
But, in my simple ignorance, suppose  
The self-same Power that brought me there brought  
you."

Then in a dainty and delectable spirit—

#### THE HUMBLE-BEE.

" Burly, dozing, humble-bee,  
Where thou art is clime for me.  
Let them sail for Porto Rique,  
Far-off heats through seas to seek ;  
I will follow thee alone,  
Thou animated torrid-zone !  
Zigzag steerer, desert cheerer,  
Let me chase thy waving lines ;  
Keep me nearer, me thy hearer,  
Singing over shrubs and vines.

" Insect lover of the sun,  
Joy of thy dominion !  
Sailor of the atmosphere ;  
Swimmer through the waves of air ;  
Voyager of light and noon ;  
Epicurean of June :  
Wait, I prithee, till I come  
Within earshot of thy hum,—  
All without is martyrdom.

" When the south wind, in May days,  
With a net of shining haze  
Silvers the horizon wall,  
And, with softness touching all,  
Tints the human countenance  
With a color of romance,  
And, infusing subtle heats,  
Turns the sod to violets,  
Thou, in sunny solitudes,  
Rover of the underwoods,  
The green silence dost dispense  
With thy mellow, breezy bass.

" Hot midsummer's potted crose,  
Sweet to me thy drowsy tone  
Tells of countless sunny hours,  
Long days, and solid banks of flowers;  
Of gulfs of sweetness without bound  
In Indian wildernesses found;  
Of Syrian peace, immortal leisure,  
Firmest cheer, and bird-like pleasure.

" Aught unsavory or unclean  
Hath my insect never seen;  
But violets and bilberry bells,  
Maple-sap, and daffodils,  
Grass with green flag half-mast high,  
Succory to match the sky,  
Columbine with horn of honey,  
Scented fern, and agrimony,  
Clover, catchfly, adder's tongue,  
And brier roses, dwelt among;  
All beside was unknown waste,  
All was picture as he passed.

" Wiser far than human seer,  
Yellow-breasted philosopher!  
Seeing only what is fair,  
Sipping only what is sweet,  
Thou dost mock at fate and care,  
Leave the chaff, and take the wheat.  
When the fierce north-western blast  
Cools sea and land so far and fast,  
Thou already slumberest deep;  
Woe and woe thou caust oversleep;  
Want and woe, which torture us,  
Thy sleep makes ridiculous."

We hope we have not failed now to convey to the reader our conviction, that we have in Mr. Emerson one of the finest, as he is certainly one of the most singular, poetical spirits of the time. By the constitution of his faculties and his peculiar training, he is restricted in his sphere, and utters rather the voice of a class refined, delicate, and pregnant with rare sympathies, than the common feelings and passions of mankind at large. With this limitation, however, he at times darts from the inner shrine, where he loves to worship and commune, a long, keen, piercing ray which reaches the general mass, and commands him to them as a poet of a charming fancy, and a heart open to the delight inspired by the beauty of the flowing brook, the waving tree, and the bird that trills accents having in them, to the humblest ear, something exquisitely responsive to the best affections of our nature. We are well aware that, in some of these compositions, he is indebted to Marvel, to Shelley, to Milton for a suggestion, to Butler for a rhyme; that there is a good deal of his seriously-intended verse Hudibrastically presented; many, many hitches in the measure, and many lamentable conclusions of no meaning to passages that promised much. But putting these behind, brushing them from off the page as blemishes and dusty spots, we have left enough of manly feeling, of delightful fancy, of pure and lucid expression, and melodious measure, to confer on the author a distinct and conspicuous position as a poet.

*Experimental Researches on the Food of Animals and the Fattening of Cattle: with Remarks on the Food of Man.* By Robert Dundas Thomson, M.D., of the University of Glasgow. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1846.

This work originated in the effort of the English farmers to be relieved from the tax on Malt, on the plea that it is more profitable to feed cattle upon it than on Barley. To ascertain upon what this plea, so contrary to *a priori* chemical reasoning, rested, the government instructed Dr. Thomson to institute an elaborate

course of experiments for the purpose of ascertaining the relative value of malt and barley as food; they resulted in the complete overthrow of the farmers' theory, as it was clearly shown that the fattening properties of malt as compared with barley, are in the proportion of

59 barley—100 malt. Lowest estimate.

79 " —100 " Highest do.

Advantage was taken of so favorable an opportunity to investigate some scientific problems of great importance to physiology, and of extreme value in the physical management of men and animals. Some of the results are so curious and interesting that we must lay them before our readers.

The introductory chapters, written with the view of enabling the agriculturist to appreciate the advantage which he would derive from physiological and chemical knowledge, treat of the various theories of digestion; of hunger and thirst, showing that saliva, the type of human drink, contains 99½ of water; the author's view of the process of digestion is ingenious and satisfactory; his experiments prove, that contrary to the received opinion, free hydrochloric acid is rarely present in the stomach, and it is doubtful if any considerable quantity of acid is secreted from the coats of the stomach. The most superficial observer must have noticed that digestion is something more than mere chemical action. Does not the famished man feel refreshed after eating, and does not the pulse beat quicker when food has been swallowed? There is, therefore, a nervous action induced, the nature of which it is only wise to admit we do not as yet understand. But so remarkable is the influence of even simple food on the nerves, after long abstinence, that it may be interesting to quote the following case in which intoxication was produced by food alone:—

#### " INTOXICATION PRODUCED BY OYSTERS.

" In the well-known mutiny of the *Bounty*, Capt. Bligh was set adrift in boats with twenty-five men about the end of April, in the neighborhood of the Friendly Islands, and was left to make his way to the coast of New Holland in such a precarious conveyance. At the end of May they reached that coast after undergoing the greatest privations, the daily allowance for each man having been one twenty-fifth of a pound of bread, a quarter of a pint of water, and occasionally a teaspoonful or two of rum. Parties went on shore, and returned highly rejoiced at having found plenty of oysters and fresh water. Soon, however, the symptoms of having eaten too much began to frighten some of us; but on questioning others who had taken a more moderate allowance their minds were a little quieted. The others, however, became equally alarmed in their turn, dreading that such symptoms (which resembled intoxication) would come on, and that they were all poisoned, so that they regarded each other with the strongest marks of apprehension, uncertain what would be the issue of their imprudence!" Similar observations have been made under other circumstances. Dr. Beddoes states that persons who have been shut up in a coal-work from the falling in of the sides of a pit, and have had nothing to eat for four or five days, will be as much intoxicated by a basin of broth, as an ordinary person by three or four quarts of strong beer.

In descending the Gharra, a tributary of the Indus, Mr. Atkinson states (Account of Expedition into Afghanistan in 1839-40, p. 66) that on two occasions during the passage he witnessed the intoxicating effects of food. To induce the Punjaubees to exert themselves a little more, he promised them a ram, which they consider a great delicacy, for a feast, their general fare consisting of rice and vegetables made palatable with spices. The ram was

killed, and they dined most luxuriously, stuffing themselves as if they were never to eat again. After an hour or two, to his great surprise and amusement, the expression of their countenances, their jabbering and gesticulations, showed clearly that the feast had produced the same effect as any intoxicating spirit or drug. The second treat was attended with the same result. The introduction of food, therefore, into the stomach produces an influence or sympathy over the whole body which is worthy of notice, and shows us that we are too much disposed, perhaps, to localize the physiological actions of the systems of animals." Pp. 31—32.

The experiments were conducted with as much care and accuracy as the importance of the subject under investigation demanded. Two cows were chosen of such qualities as should ensure confidence, and the results of the employment of food of different descriptions, in the production of milk and butter, are given in numerous tables. The quantity of water drunk by cows, has often excited our wonder, for, as they are constantly feeding during the whole day, the stomach must usually be in a state of engorgement, and yet the quantity drunk by the cows under experiment, at one draught, was never less than 23 lbs., and upon one occasion 63 lbs., or six gallons of water, was swallowed without the animal taking a breath. Now, it is obvious, that the water must have passed through the stomach into the intestines (and some facts communicated by Sir Benj. Brodie, and Mr. Coleman of the Veterinary College, serve to confirm that view), carrying with it much soluble matter, especially of a saline nature, which may be absorbed, or thrown out with the excrement. In some animals, killed soon after swallowing water, it was found lodged in the colon, or large intestine, from which it is inferred, "that the element is deposited liquid in the right colon; that on arriving in the rectum, it is deprived of fluid, and the lymphatics are found distended with a limpid fluid." If this view be correct, we have an explanation of

#### " THE ACTION OF PURGATIVES.

" The fact of the colon serving as a kind of reservoir for the large quantities of fluid carried into the intestinal canal, may serve also to explain the mode of action of saline purgatives. It would appear that, when dissolved in large quantities of water, they are carried at once to the colon, where they act by stimulating the intestine, increasing the peristaltic motion, and thus encouraging a more intimate mixture of the aqueous and solid contents of the gut, communicating the same liquid condition of the contents of this intestine to those of the rectum, which are usually quite free from water, and thus contributing to their easy evacuation. Liebig has endeavored to account for the action of saline purgatives by the power which they possess of extracting water from the tissues, in the same way that common salt extracts water from meat and forms brine. To a certain extent this explanation is satisfactory; but it is obvious it cannot extend to the action of powders, such as jalap, &c., and accordingly Liebig restricts his view to saline purgatives. But if, as Sir Charles Bell believes, there is always a quantity of water in the colon, we can more readily understand how such vegetable powders can act, and that their agency would be assisted by the use of diluents which will be carried down to the rectum and be intermixed with its contents. The erect posture, if this view is correct, will be the most proper to assume after the administration of medicine, in order that the abundant draught of fluid may be carried rapidly by gravity to the lower extremity of the intestinal canal. This explanation of the action of purgatives, it will be observed, assimilates them to clysters, with this difference, that a purgative

may act more or less from the stomach downwards, while the influence of a clyster is generally restricted to the rectum and colon. From this view we may also infer, that, in cases where the bowels obstinately resist the action of purgatives, and it is considered advisable to administer a clyster, the action of the latter will be facilitated by the free use of tepid water introduced by the mouth.

"PREFERENCE TO BE GIVEN TO SALINE PURGATIVES.

"It may be further inferred from this view, that a preference should be given to saline purgatives over those of a vegetable nature, since, being soluble, they are at once carried to the large intestines, their proper sphere of action; and, contrary to the frequent assertion, they are just as natural to the system as those of a vegetable nature, since all wholesome food contains saline ingredients. This view is, in some measure, opposed to the employment of medicines in the state of pills, and would appear to dictate the propriety of administering aperients in the form of solution whenever it can be practised with propriety. This observation it is not intended, however, should be construed into a recommendation of the use of purgatives; on the contrary, we believe them to be much too frequently employed, and that a more intimate study of the process of digestion will convince both medical men and patients, that the primary object of attention is the nature of the food employed, and the due consideration of its adaptation to the particular circumstances in which an individual is placed. The nature of the action of purgatives now supported may be stated in a few words. The colon in a natural state contains water; the rectum contains only dry faeces: a purgative increases the action of the colon, intermixes the water and contents more intimately, propels these liquid matters into the rectum, occasions also a similar action to that induced in the colon, and finally, enables the whole contents to pass away with facility. This view is, in some measure, borne out by the fact of such succulent food as grass, which contains from four-fifths to two-thirds its weight of water, acting as an habitual aperient.

"Purgatives are usually employed to remove, as the phrase goes, irritating matter from the intestines. Now, as the only foreign substance of any consequence, in addition to the food, thrown into the intestines, is the bile, it becomes an important object to determine upon what the physician is acting when he administers a purgative. The question, Where are the irritating materials lodged? demands first a solution. If in the colon, then why should the whole length of the intestinal canal be subjected to the stimulating action of a purgative, since the end can be more easily attained by throwing a clyster into the large gut? The second question is, Does the bile cause the irritation? And, third, Does not the food occasion the derangement? So little are we prepared to answer these questions, that we do not even as yet know the function or destination of the bile. But there can be little hesitation in affirming, that the use of purgatives is carried much too far in this country, especially mercurials, a class of the most dangerous poisons. The primary object of the introduction of food into the stomach and intestinal canal is to produce blood: in order that the latter may be of a healthy description, it is requisite that the food should contain the ingredients necessary for the production of blood, and that these should be in a state of integrity and health." Pp. 41—42.

Barley and malt, when crushed, although steeped in hot water, are imperfectly digested, a considerable portion passing through the intestines intact, demonstrating the importance of a certain amount of crushing and cooking in the preparation of food for cattle. The tables exhibit a large increase of butter and milk when the cows were fed upon barley crushed and steeped in hot water.

The present method of haymaking is shown to be very detrimental to its nutritive qualities, and suggestions are made, by which grass may be preserved so as to retain all its peculiar properties without loss. Other experiments were made with the view of ascertaining the relative effects of barley in combination with molasses, and linseed, and of beans, in the production of milk and butter. The superiority was greatly in favor of the mixture of barley and linseed; but, with one cow, bean-meal gave the greatest amount of milk: an interesting fact—strongly corroborating the propriety of the partiality of some cow-feeders for bean-meal as an article of nutrition for their stall fed cattle. The influence of the quantity of grain upon the production of milk is a point of no small importance. It is clearly shown that no advantage resulted when the quantity per day exceeded 9 lbs. In fact, when 12 lbs. were given, the amount was inferior.

The proportion of the nutritive to the calorifient (or respiratory) constituents of food should vary according as the animal is in a state of exercise or rest. From the tables given of the constituents of different articles of food, we are led to infer that the food destined for the animal in a state of exercise should range between milk and flour, varying according to the nature and extent of the demands upon the system. From these tables we also infer that, as nature has provided milk for the support of the infant mammalia, the constitution of their food should always be formed after this type. On this topic, the food of infants, the reader should consult the volume for several practical suggestions:

BREAD-MAKING.

"Bread may be made either by the usual process of fermentation, or by the action of hydrochloric acid upon sesquicarbonate of soda. In many respects the latter process deserves the preference, when we consider the chemical nature of the two methods.

"The vulgar idea, which yields the palm of superiority to the former, does not appear to be based on solid data, and it seems desirable, that in a case of so much importance in domestic economy, the arguments in favor of such an opinion should be subjected to a careful experimental examination. Judging *a priori*, it does not seem evident that flour should become more wholesome by the destruction of one of its important elements, or that the vesicular condition engendered by the evolution of carbonic acid from that source, should at once convert dough (if it were unwholesome) into wholesome bread.

"When a piece of dough is taken in the hand, being adhesive, and closely pressed together, it feels heavy, and if swallowed in the raw condition, it would prove indigestible to the majority of individuals. This would occur from its compact nature, and from the absence of that disintegration of its particles which is the primary step in digestion. But, if the same dough were subjected to the elevated heat of a baker's oven, 450°, its relation to the digestive powers of the stomach would be changed, because the water to which it owed its tenacity would be expelled, and the only obstacle to its complete division and consequent subserviency to the solvent powers of the animal system would be removed. This view of the case is borne out by a reference to the form in which the flour of the various species of *cerealia* is employed as an article of food by different nations. By the peasantry of Scotland, barley-bread, oat-cakes, peas-bread, or a mixture of peas and barley-bread, and also potatoe-bread, mixed with flour, are all very generally employed in an unfermented form with an effect the reverse of injurious to health. With such an experience, under our daily observation, it seems

almost unnecessary to remark, that the Jew does not labor under indigestion when he has substituted, during his Passover, unleavened cakes, for his usual fermented bread; that biscuits are even employed when fermented bread is not considered sufficiently digestible for the sick; and that the inhabitants of the northern parts of India and of Afghanistan very generally make use of unfermented cakes, similar to what are called *scones* in Scotland. Such, then, being sufficient evidence in favor of the wholesomeness of unfermented bread, it becomes important to discover in what respect it differs from fermented bread. Bread-making being a chemical process, it is from chemistry alone that we can expect a solution of this question. In the production of fermented bread a certain quantity of flour, water, and yeast, are mixed together, and formed into a dough or paste, and are allowed to ferment for a certain time at the expense of the sugar of the flour. The mass is then exposed in an oven to an elevated temperature, which puts a period to the fermentation, expands the carbonic acid, resulting from the decomposed sugar and air contained in the bread, and expels the alcohol formed, and all the water capable of being removed by the heat employed. The result gained by this process may be considered to be merely the expansion of the particles of which the loaf is composed, so as to render the mass more readily divisible by the preparatory organs of digestion. But as this object is gained at a sacrifice of the integrity of the flour, it becomes a matter of interest to ascertain the amount of loss sustained in the process. To determine this point I had comparative experiments made upon a large scale with fermented and unfermented bread. The latter was raised by means of carbonic acid generated by chemical means in the dough. But to understand the circumstances, some preliminary explanation is necessary. Mr. Henry, of Manchester, in the end of last century, suggested the idea of mixing dough with carbonate of soda and muriatic acid, so as to disengage carbonic acid in imitation of the usual effect of fermentation; but with this advantage, that the integrity of the flour was preserved, and that the elements of the common salt required as a seasoner of the bread were thus introduced, and the salt formed in the dough.

"The result of my experiments upon the bread produced by the action of the hydrochloric acid upon carbonate of soda has been, that in a sack of flour there was a difference in favor of the unfermented bread to the amount of 30 lbs. 13 oz.; or, in round numbers, a sack of flour would produce 107 loaves of unfermented bread, and only 100 loaves of fermented bread of the same weight. Hence it appears, that in the sack of flour, by the common process of baking, 7 loaves, or 6½ per cent. of the flour, are driven into the air and lost."

UNFERMENTED BREAD.

"A good method of making unfermented bread is to take of flour four pounds, sesquicarbonate of soda (supercarbonate of the shops), 320 grains, hydrochloric acid (spirit of salt or muriatic acid of the shops), 6½ fluid drachms, common salt 300 grains, water, 35 ounces by measure. The soda is first mixed with the flour very intimately. The salt is dissolved in the water, and added to the acid. The whole being rapidly mixed as in common baking. The bread may either be baked in tins or formed like cottage loaves, and should be kept from one to two hours in the oven. Should the bread prove yellow, it is a proof that the soda has been in excess, and indicates the propriety of adding a small additional portion of acid; the acid varying somewhat in strength. The same process may be employed in raising the other mixture previously recommended."

MODE OF PRESERVING BUTTER FRESH.

"The cause of the tainting of fresh butter depends upon the presence of the small quantity of curd and water as exhibited by the preceding analysis. To render butter capable of being

kept for any length of time in a fresh condition, that is, as a pure solid oil, all that is necessary is to boil it in a pan till the water is removed, which is marked by the cessation of violent ebullition. By allowing the liquid oil to stand for a little the curd subsides, and the oil may then be poured off, or it may be strained through calico or muslin, into a bottle, and corked up. When it is to be used, it may be gently heated and poured out of the bottle, or cut out by means of a knife or cheese-gouge. This is the usual method of preserving butter in India (ghee), and also on the Continent; and it is rather remarkable that it is not in general use in this country. Bottled butter will thus keep for any length of time, and it is the best form of this substance to use for sauces."

From what we have given above, it will be seen that this is a book possessing more than ordinary interest and value, not only to the agriculturist,—to whom it must be of the utmost practical benefit,—but to the general reader, who will find numerous valuable hints tending to the preservation of health and consequent prolongation of life.

*Specimens of the Poets and Poetry of Greece and Rome.* Edited by Wm. Peter, A.M., of Christchurch, Oxford. Philadelphia: Carey & Hart. 1847.

[CONCLUDING PAPER.]

In previous papers we have examined and given copious extracts from the selections contained in this work, so far as the heroic poets and tragedians of Greece are concerned; and there yet remain to be dealt with, Pindar, the pastoral writers, and the anthologists of Greece, besides the whole tribe of Roman authors. It is obvious, therefore, that, unable as we conceive ourselves to devote yet another paper to this topic, how interesting it may be soever, we must deal with the remainder of our task triply, and as it were *currente calamo*, offering extracts, and leaving opinions to be formed by our readers, rather than attempting much of elaborate criticism.

Of Pindar, avowedly the most sublime, the most learned, and at the same time the simplest in his grandeur, of all ancient writers, it has almost been confessed an act of presumption to attempt an imitation, since the day when Horace declared, that

"Pindarum quisquis studet emulari,  
Iule, ceratis ope Dardicæ  
Nittitur pennis, vitro daturus  
Nomina ponti."

And to judge from the specimens given to us by Mr. Peter, all, by the way, with three exceptions, taken from Carey, we should rather have deemed the imitators likely to give their names to some extremely muddy ditch than to any sea, whether clear or turbid. Some of these, therefore, we shall extract; but to prove that something might have been found more worthy of representing the Dircean swan, than the dull stuff before us, we shall give our readers two fragments from the same Pindaric odes, alluded to before, as rendered by the Dean of Manchester, expressing our regret at the same time that he should have limited himself to seven alone, instead of buckling to the author in all his force.

FROM THE SECOND OLYMPIC ODE.

"Dying, evil men straightway  
Reap punishment; crimes, here beneath Jove's sway  
Done, are judged by one below,  
Whom hateful need constrains  
To speak the doom of woe."

Strophe IV.

"But alike by night for ever,  
And alike by day,  
Righteous men with sunlight blest  
Have a life of tranquil rest;  
Nor the earth with strength of hands  
Harass, nor the ocean's flood,

Laboring for scanty food.  
Those, who in faithful vows delighted,  
Now with the honored God enjoy  
Tearless years untouched by sorrow;  
The foreworn have lengthened toil,  
From which mortal eyes recoil."

Antistrophe IV.

"They who have the strength, unsullied  
On each side the grave,  
Thrice the spirit to restrain  
Pure from all unrighteous stain,  
Unto Saturn's far abode  
Shall achieve Jove's arduous way,  
Soft airs, born of Ocean's spray,  
These round the blessed Isles are breathing,  
And golden blossoms glean ; some deck  
Beauteous trees, and some the water  
Nourishes : blithe hands entwine  
Flower chains, and wreaths that shine."

Epode IV.

"As Rhadamanth's unerring word  
Hath doomed, who sits by Saturn, Lord  
Of Great Rhea throned  
High above all powers that be.  
Amid those removed from care  
Cadmus and Peleus dwell in glory there.  
Thither joyful Thetis brought  
Her son—when, moved by prayer,  
Jove granted what she sought."

Strophe V.

"Who o'erthrew undaunted Hector,  
Pilar stout of Troy.  
Cynus slew, and Æthiop born  
From the womb of rosy morn."

These beautiful lines are perfectly literal; they convey the whole spirit and sense of the original; they give a correct idea of the peculiar rhythm, and the still more peculiar style, short, nervous, and though smooth, not the less strong, for which Pindar is so famous, and by which he is rendered so obscure and so difficult of translation. One more brief extract, and we shall pass to the Anthologists, of whom Mr. Peter has given us very copious and excellently well-selected specimens. This extract is from the commencement of the first Pythian ode, which has been imitated, paraphrased, and naturalized in almost every tongue, but especially, and most successfully, by the English Gray and the Italian Guidi, in the finest of their respective odes and canzoni.

Strophe I.

"Golden lyre, of bright Apollo,  
And the Muses violet-haired,  
Best possession ! thee the step  
Waked by Joy's beginning hears ;  
Thee the sweetly warbled lay,  
And the measured tread obey,  
When preluding to the dance  
Thou bidd'st the twinkling feet advance.  
Thou of keen-arm'd eternal fire  
Extingughest the thunder !  
The eagle on Jove's sceptre sleeps  
While his swift wing on each side drooping weeps."

Antistrophe I.

"Chief of Birds. A cloud cornelian  
Thou, sweet covering of his lids,  
O'er his uncate beak hast thrown ;  
Slumbering heaves his supple back.  
Lulled by thine all-soothing strain  
E'en fierce Mars upon the plain,  
Having left his lance and dart  
In pleasure's trance delights his heart.  
For gods ethereal own the power  
Of melody's enchantment,  
The spell of Phœbus the bright throned,  
The wisdom of the muses deeply zoned."

We now come to the Pastoral Poets and the Anthologists, and here we have a far more pleasing duty than any which has yet fallen to our share in the examination of this work; for it is a duty of almost unqualified approbation. The lighter nature, the greater brevity, the pithiness, the beauty, and the point of very many of these minor poems—minor be it observed in length only, not in merit—have induced numberless writers, who would have shrunk from the thankless and almost endless task of translating an epic or a drama, to try their hands at these exquisite bits of wit, of sentiment, and pathos; and so excellently well have they succeeded, that very many of the versions may be said really to equal the Greek. These translations must have been sought out with much care and much labor, for they have been

compiled, we believe, nowhere previously to the appearance of this work; and were originally scattered over an infinity of pages, of magazines, annuals, original volumes, and the like; and for the diligence with which he has selected them, the editor deserves the very highest credit. In this place, we will further take the opportunity of stating, as the probable reason of the seemingly undue space assigned to these comparatively unknown and unimportant writers, that the great superiority of the execution of these, and their comparative rarity render them more valuable, both to the scholar and to the general reader, than the duller and more easily obtained translations of greater authors. Of Theocritus, though we have a number of capital extracts, we shall select but one, that one by Leigh Hunt, as perfect a gem of its kind, as is to be found in any tongue, and as Greek as Greek itself, though sterling Saxon English too.

"Turning down, goatherd, by the oaks, you'll see  
A fig-tree stute, put up recently,  
Three-footed, with the bark on, without ears ;  
Yet plain enough Priapus it appears.  
A sacred hedge runs round it ; and a brook,  
Flowing from out a little gravelly nook,  
Keeps green the laurel and the myrtle trees  
And odorous cypresses :  
And there's a vine there, heaping all about  
Its tendrilled clusters out ;  
And vernal blackbirds through the sprays  
Shake their shrill notes a thousand ways ;  
And yellow nightingales reply,  
Murmuring a honied song deliciously.  
Sit you down there, and the kind God implore,  
That I may yearn for Paumathæ no more ;  
Myself, with a fine kid will follow you,  
And sacrifice ; and should the deity nod,  
A heifer and a goat shall thank him too,  
And a house-lamb. Hear then, kind hearted god."

Here again is an exquisite little morsel from Nicias of Miletus, a friend of Theocritus, so full of the freshness and soul of rural scenery that we can hear the pleasant hum of the vernal insects, and scent the fragrance of the early flowers, as we read the simple, yet how truthful lines—

"Many-colored, sunshine-loving,  
Spring betokening bee !  
Yellow bee, so mad for love  
Of early-blooming flowers—  
Till thy waxen cell be full,  
Fair fall thy work and thee,  
Buzzing round the sweetly smelling  
Garden plots and bowers."

Who, after reading the following self-sung dirge of the grasshopper, as Mr. Peter has incorrectly rendered *terris*, which signifies a very different insect, the cicada or tree cricket of southern Europe, nearly similar, we believe, to our katydid, who, we say, would allow his young hope, masculine or feminine, to immolate one of the dew drinking tribe a victim to its love of mischief ? Hear how tunefully he carolls his complaint :—

"I shall never sing my pleasant ditty now,  
Folded round by long leaves on the bough,  
Under my shrilly chirping wing :  
For a child's hand seized me in luckless hour,  
Sitting on the petals of a flower,  
Looking for no such evil thing."

Passing onward, a few pages, we come to Dioscorides, of whom Mr. Peter tells us that he has left about forty epigrams, most of which are too trivial or unbecoming in character to repay the labors of translation. The two which he gives to us, however, are of the rarest beauty, and one is of so modern, we had almost said so Christian, a style of sentiment and thought that we cannot refrain from quoting it.

"THE PERSIAN SLAVE TO HIS MASTER.

"O Master ! shroud my body, when I die,  
In decent ceremonys, from the vulgar eye.  
But burn me not upon your funeral pyre,  
Nor dare the gods and desecrate their fire :  
I am a Persian ; 't were a Persian's shame

To dip his body in the sacred flame.  
Nor o'er my worthless limbs your waters pour ;  
For streams and fountains Persia's sons adore ;  
But leave me to the clouds that gave us birth.  
For dust should turn to dust, and earth to earth."

From Apollonius Rhodius we have some fine and copious extracts by that very able writer and great scholar, Sir Charles Elton, and his worthy rival, T. H. Merivale; our limits will not however permit of our quoting them, or, indeed, any other specimens of the minor Greek writers, with the exception of a hymn by Dionysius to Apollo, very inadequately, as it seems to us, translated into blank verse; so inadequately that we are once more tempted to try our own hand at a version in a more lyrical measure. The following is by W. Hay:—

"Keep silence now, with reverential awe,  
Wide ether, and ye mountains, and ye meads,  
With earth, and sea, and every breeze, and sound,  
And voice of tuneful bird—be silent all;  
For Phœbus, with his beaming locks unshorn,  
Descends among us,—on a stream of song.  
Sire of Aurora—her whose eyelids fair  
Are of 'the braided snow—her rosy car,  
Along the boundless ridge of heaven's expanse,  
Drawn by those winged steeds thou urgèst on—  
Exulting in thy curls of flaming gold.  
Thy coronal are rays of dazzling light  
Revolving much and pouring on the earth,  
From their blest fountains, splendors ever bright;  
While of thy rivers of immortal fire  
Day the beloved, is born.

For thee, the choirs  
Of tranquil stars perform their mystic round  
O'er heaven's imperial pavement;—with thy lyre,  
Oh! Phœbus warbling forth its ceaseless notes  
Delighted:—

While the moon serenely clear  
Borne onward in her steer-drawn team of light,  
Heralds the changeful seasons, and her heart  
With pleasure glows—while clothing dismal earth  
With beauteous vestments of a various hue."

And here is our own.

#### HYMN TO THE SUN.

*From the Greek of Dionysius.*

Mute be the skies and still—  
Silent each haunted hill,  
And valley deep!  
Let earth and ocean's breast  
And all the breezes rest—  
Let every echo sleep!—

Unshorn, his ringlets bright,  
He comes, the lord of light,  
Lord of the lyre.  
Morn lifts her lids of snow,  
Tinged with a rosy glow,  
To greet thee, glorious sire.

Climbing, with winged feet  
Of fiery coursers fleet,  
Heaven's arch profound;  
Far through the realms of air,  
From out thy sunny hair  
Thou pourest radiance round.

Thine are the living streams  
Of bright immortal beams,  
The founts of day!  
Before thy path careers  
The chorus of the spheres—  
With wild rejoicing lay.

The sad and silver moon,  
Before thy gorgeous noon  
Slow gliding by,  
Joys in her placid soul  
To see around her roll  
Those armies of the sky.

With this, our last quotation, we must take leave of the finest, and by far the best executed part of Mr. Peter's work; best executed by himself in his sphere of selection, and best executed by the English writers, from whom he was bound to cull his materials. We suspect, indeed, that Mr. Peter, like ourselves, is a better Grecian, and a more enthusiastic one, than he is a Latinist; that the grand freedom of thought, and fire of sentiment, the roll of many-syllabled soul-stirring compounds, and the superb sweep of the measured Attic tongue, completely drowns the meagre concinnity, the

pretty polish, and the glittering terseness of the far less copious and less noble Latin language. Sure we are, that he has not set to his task with the same labor of love, or performed his selections with the same judgment and taste in the latter, which he has displayed in the former portion of the work. Wherefore, else, in the name of all that is unpoetical and unamusing, should he have given one hundred pages out of one hundred and twenty to a writer of so little mark, comparatively speaking, as Plautus, who, with his fellow Terence, occupies one-half of the portion allotted to the Roman writers? But in good faith, we cannot wonder, if he has waxed weary over this toilsome portion of his duty; for grievously dull and heavy as are the translations of the greater Greek writers, infinitely more wearisome and doleful are the wretched versions of the Latins; even the great name, and in original composition, masterly genius of Dryden, that king of the heroic couplet, has failed to render Virgil or Ovid palatable; while Smart and Francis have rendered Horace fairly ridiculous. Gifford's Juvenal is better and more spirited, yet he, too, lags millions of leagues behind the impetuous vehemence and torrent-like eloquence of the great satirist. In Latin, the anthology is less copious and far less interesting than in Greek, and hence it has much fewer and less able translators; and for this, yet another cause may be found in the fact, that, equally well understood, Greek is far easier language to render into English, than its poorer and less sonorous successor.

All these are reasons, wherefore the latter portion of the work should be decidedly inferior, both in merit and interest, to the Greek; and wherefore its editor should have, in appearance at least, bestowed less pains on it. This may not in truth be the case, and it may be to paucity of eligible material, rather than to want of zeal or taste in selection, that the trifling deficiency may be attributed. At all events, the labor and research necessary to the compilation of such a work are in themselves enormous, and with abundance of both, Mr. Peter has displayed more than enough taste, and genuine love of antique letters, to entitle him to the gratitude of every scholarly reader in the land.

*Life of Godfrey William Von Leibnitz, on the basis of the German work of Dr. G. E. Guhrauer.* By John M. Mackie. Boston: Gould, Kendall and Lincoln, 1846.

To the liberal student of mathematics or metaphysics, a life of Leibnitz, for many reasons, must be very acceptable. The present is based on the German life, by Guhrauer, and gives an accurate and valuable account of the principal works of the philosopher, a popular view of his theories in morals, and his connexion with the politics and diplomacy of the House of Brunswick, previous to the accession of George I. to the English throne. The character and life of the man seem to us at the present day, as of more value even than his writings. It was the business of those great minds, Des Cartes, Malebranche, Leibnitz, and perhaps Bacon, to prepare the way for knowledge, rather than to become the depositaries of philosophy. The poet, after all, has the advantage of the philosopher. The results of the poet are preserved for their own intrinsic worth; the deductions of the philosopher are scanned, and if sanctioned by the approval of mankind, are at once appropriated by the commonest thinker, put into shorter and better expressions by inferior minds; while errors and defects, that are the necessary lot of human

reason, obscure his merits and consign his volumes to neglect.

As one of the co-inventors of the modern method of analysis, Leibnitz deserves the highest glory. The dispute in reference to the differential calculus between himself and Newton, is recounted at full length in the life. It seems as if these quarrels, for mere reputation, are somewhat in bad taste, and yet, "fame is the spur that the pure spirit doth raise." So far as the credit of invention is concerned, it seems as if both candidates were entitled to the wreath; though certainly Leibnitz, as a mere mathematician, can scarce take as high rank as Newton.

The author observes that the ethical works of Leibnitz all derive a coloring from his profession of jurisprudence; and are in this respect different from those written by theologians. As it is, the Theodicea, though a great and noble work, has not obtained the popularity of the scoffing Candide. In fact, no philosopher is required to show that this is the best of all possible universes. Each man should himself demand, am I acting in the best possible manner, and is the microcosm ever on the advance to perfection?

Equally barren is the bold, dogmatic psychology of his system of monads. These monads were imagined to be reflections of the original monad, and to be impressed with certain relations towards each other, so as to form plants, beasts, animals and men. The soul and body of man were separated in essence, and the one never acted on the other, according to the philosopher. To account for the apparent influence of the soul over the body, he fancied that each was impressed in such a manner that at the moment of volition the body, by virtue of entirely different causes, and existing in itself, moved. And this, the strangest notion that ever entered a metaphysician's head, is the famous pre-established harmony.

We must not be understood as undervaluing this great man; the activity of his mind and universality of his genius were astonishing. He observed and threw out valuable hints in geology; he anticipated Babbage in a calculating machine; he was a great statesman, lawyer, philologist, mathematician, and philosopher. No one, in modern times, can lay juster claims to the title of universal genius. One great idea, to which he devoted many years, was worthy of the grandness of his views, it was no other than to unite the Catholic and Reformed Churches. The philanthropist might indeed applaud the design, and the philosopher see nothing in the way of its execution, but Leibnitz made no great progress in his scheme of union.

The public life and high station of Leibnitz, in the courts of Northern Germany, must have exerted a most favorable influence on the cause of letters. His reputation and success in public life; the variety of the subjects he discussed; the boldness and profundity of his views, and the great popularity his metaphysics gained, some years after his death, in Germany, tended greatly to arouse, in that country, a growing inclination to philosophy. It is true the superior methods of Kant, and his followers, overshadowed the reputation of Leibnitz. But still the name of Father of German Philosophy seems to be fairly bestowed upon him. His life will be read with interest, as that of a great and self-formed thinker. No one can pretend to a knowledge of the history of modern metaphysics, without embracing in his view the life and opinions of the author of the Theodicea.

*The Works of Josephus*: a new Translation. By the Rev. Robert Traill, D.D. With Notes, Essays, and Pictorial Illustrations. London: 1847. Parts I., II.

Two parts of this splendid publication are before us. It is to be comprised in twelve parts, issued monthly, and completed during the present year. There are to be more than one hundred engravings in the highest style of art, illustrative of the text; many of them elaborate views from drawings taken for the purpose, in the Holy Land itself; others, portraits of the leading personages in the history, obtained from ancient coins; and still other sketches, explanatory of particular spots or objects mentioned in the text.

This is an attempt to make the writings of Josephus a classic work, in the English language. And if this honor is due to any ancient author, none certainly can be more deserving of it than the Jewish historian; not certainly, on account of the splendor of his diction, or of his poetry, or of his philosophy; but because of his subject, and because of his truthful delineation of the history and antiquities of the singular and renowned nation to which he belonged; a nation whose character and relations have had more to do with the civilization and intelligence, and progress of modern times, than all the rest of antiquity, or of the world, together. We justly look upon the Bible as the foundation of all truth, and of all true progress, for time and for eternity; and from no quarter can the Bible receive so much illustration and confirmation, as from the writings of Josephus.

It is not in one department alone, that those writings thus serve to illustrate the Scriptures; but in many. They give us first an insight into the manner in which the intelligent Jews of that day understood the Old Testament, its facts, and its doctrines. In these, too, this writer affords evidence of the prevalence of tradition and a traditional exposition of their Scriptures. This is often obvious in the case of Josephus himself. The manuscripts of the Old Testament were not like Bibles nowadays, common to all in every form, and therefore easy to be consulted; they were in huge rolls, infrequent, expensive, and difficult to be consulted from their very mass and form. Hence a popular writer would be far more likely to satisfy himself with a reminiscence or a popular form of quotation, than to be at the trouble of unrolling his ponderous manuscript, merely to ascertain with exactness a remark, or a fact. We see this even in the Epistles of Paul; and certainly it is not less to be expected in a writer like Josephus. Yet in all this we discover the relation in which the Jewish mind stood towards their Scriptures. Another department in which Josephus lends great aid to the explanation of the Bible, is the topography of the country. It is not too much to say that without his help, it would be impossible to make out from the Bible alone, a consistent plan of the Holy City; with his help, only perverted ingenuity can fail to seize upon the great features, which of old distinguished, and still distinguish, that remarkable spot.

With high gratification, therefore, we hail the appearance of this work; which, we must confess, rather more than answers the expectations raised by its announcement. It has, so to speak, three editors, or rather collaborators; of each of whose departments we will say a word.

The Translation is by the Rev. Dr. Traill; and whoever has tried to read the dry and crabbed version of Whiston, will rejoice once more to meet with the ease and vivacity of the ori-

ginal transfused into his mother tongue. We have compared various passages, and find the translations everywhere faithful, without being servile. It has evidently been the work of many years; and bears marks of a continual filing, by which it has gained in smoothness and polish.

The Illustrations are by Wm. Tipping, Esq., a skilful sketcher of nature, though not an artist by profession. He spent ten months in Palestine—in 1841 and 1842—for the sole purpose of obtaining illustrations for this work; to which they are, on his part, a free-will offering. Our readers may have heard of him before, as the companion of our countryman, the Rev. S. Wolcott, in an excursion to the cliff of Sebbeh on the coast of the Dead Sea, on which was situated the ancient fortress of Masada; and also in exploring the secret recesses of the ancient southern entrance to the temple-area under the present Mosk-el-Aksa. Among the views given in these two parts are several relating to those vaulted passages. There are also landscape views of the Baths of Tiberius, Tarichaea, and Sapphoris; likewise sketches of the S. E. corner of the Harem walls, and of the ancient arch in the S.W. wall of the same; to the truth and life-like reality of which we can bear an unhesitating testimony.

The Essays and Notes are understood to be from the pen of Isaac Taylor, Esq., of Ongar, the author of the "Natural History of Enthusiasm," "Ancient Christianity," &c.; well known as a powerful writer. The notes thus far, are limited to an explanation of the plates; and an application of the facts which they bring out to the question of the antiquity of the vaults and substructions beneath the Harem; and to the identity of the ancient arch, with the bridge mentioned by Josephus. In regard to those interior substructions, the researches of Mr. Tipping reveal the interesting fact, that not less than three different epochs may be distinguished in their architecture; viz.: the exterior gateway, of a late period, probably by Hadrian; the arches themselves, which are Roman, apparently from the time of Herod; and the foundation walls and columns on which the arches rest, which were evidently much older, and were once bevelled. This unexpected result sustains the view taken by our countryman Dr. Robinson, which has been often called in question.

We gave in a former number the announcement by Harper & Brothers, of a cheaper and popular edition of this great work. We wish them all success; but hope they will not mar the illustrations, which are all important. Above all, we trust they will not allow the work to be tampered with by an "American Editor."

*Memoria Technica: or the art of abbreviating those Studies which give the greatest labor to the Memory; including numbers in historical dates, geography, astronomy, gravities, &c. Also, rules for Memorizing, &c. To which is added a Perpetual Almanac. Adapted to the use of Schools.* By Lorenzo D. Johnson. Boston: Gould, Kendall, and Lincoln. pp. 96. 1847.

Next in importance to the power of thought must be the acquisition and preservation of the materials of thinking. A well-balanced judgment and sound understanding are assuredly higher qualities than a powerful memory. And yet, in the practical business of life, a retentive memory, well supplied with facts, is an instrument of the greatest value. The problem of Education is ever this, How can we advance and improve the original talent intrusted to our keeping? The first answer is, by exercise; and,

undoubtedly, mere exercise would have a vast power in improving the memory. But some are apt to complain, and—tired at the labor of mastering the facts they desire to have in constant readiness—exclaim, their memory is so poor they can never recollect what they read: they have no power to recollect dates, and the like. They compare themselves to others, and despair. Now, the memory is vastly under the control of the will; so much so, that it may be thought that memory, with all her stores, is but an act of the will conjoined with an instinctive and spontaneous act of that portion of the mind that we may call animal and unconscious. It may be considered that every act of the memory is nothing more than mere suggestion and association. Natural memory is but the natural association of ideas, and when that association is directed by the will we call the process the acquisition of a technical or artificial memory. Some person, we believe Dr. Hooke, assimilated the ideas of the mind to certain packages laid away as if in a storehouse; and the common expression of stores of learning would make his fancy seem somewhat natural. No one will reject a plan of so storing the mind, that he may always have his facts and index in readiness in his head without the constant need of reference to books.

Now, what are the principles of the author in giving the memory this increased and astonishing power. Simply the practical use of the theory of association of ideas. It would be difficult to find a single thought in the mind in a state of isolation. The simplest, perhaps, would be to remember that a memory existed. The first step is—arrange in proper shelves, in well-arranged packs, the disordered materials of thought. And first of our acquisitions, in point of difficulty to retain, are those facts that involve the relation of number, as dates, quantities, &c.

The author here adopts and modifies the systems of Feinagle and Gouraud. To the date or other number he frames a word or words having adopted consonant sounds so as to correspond to the ten arabic symbols for numbers. This word or these words would be as difficult to remember almost as the number, if they were not associated with the subject matter by a sensible sentence. The subject suggests the sentence, in the sentence are the numerical words, and the consonants of these words are at once read off in numbers. This is a hint of the principle of all the mnemonic systems, that have been the last refuge of so many itinerant quacks. Having acquired adroitness, they astonished for a while, leaving their pupils despoiled of a fee, and as little able to make use of the system as before the wonderful man began his instruction. The other mode pointed out is, by dividing in the mind all the thoughts and facts to be remembered into classes. These classes are to be numbered, say, to one hundred, and perhaps a local habitation and visible image as of steps or outward objects may be the sign of these classes. Let the sentence, embracing the fact, be connected arbitrarily with the class and its sign, then the one will constantly recall the other. Or, if in a science, the topics may in succession be assigned to these classes, and subdivisions or orders may be established—much in the same way as in a well arranged common-place book. Connected with this subject in reference to chronology a rule is given for the purpose of enabling a person to find the day of the week, when the year and month are given; and to find the day of the month, when the day of the week is known.

It may be urged that the leading facts of any branch if arranged by the side of other facts in other sciences will produce confusion, but this seems to be contrary to the law of association, since at each time the act of memory is performed, it brings up several thoughts and sentences, and each sentence forms as it were a key to all the others. For it seems that the memory of a fact is strong in direct proportion to the number and strength of the ideas associated with it.

The present volume is cheap, judicious, and free from the pretence of some of its predecessors in mnemonics. In the hands of a judicious teacher, who might explain the reason of some of the sentences, that to a child might seem childish, it would serve an excellent purpose, and the acquisitions of youth would remain for the use of advanced life, while habits of easy and successful association would make future acquisitions no task.

*Chambers's Cyclopædia of English Literature.* Boston : Gould, Kendall and Lincoln.

We have received from the publishers five numbers of this excellent popular compend of literary history and biography. The work very honestly pretends to be no more than a clear abridgment of such longer works as those of Warton, Percy, Ellis, Hazlitt, &c. It is an expansion of the syllabus originally drawn up, on the same subjects, for the popular Edinburgh series. It does not pretend to be nice, deep, subtle, or original, but, in general, gives current judgments with sufficient accuracy. It has no pretence to antiquarian research, though fairly representing the spirit of the older literature, by extracts and by opinions made up from the most reliable authorities.

In a word, it is no book for scholars or critics, who compose a small class, but a very useful book for the great mass of readers, who have neither time nor inclination for consulting more thorough works.

The compiler is a true Scotchman, and evinces his nationality in several marked instances. Thus: he gives Scotchmen more than their due proportion of place and prominence; he allows no third-rate writer of "Auld Scotia" to be omitted, but gives the smallest the best praise he can conscientiously afford. We do not find fault with this: neither would we blame the love of facts and the exhibition of details, everywhere manifest throughout the work. Many facts, well known to well-read scholars, will be new to the general reader.

The worst fault of Mr. Chambers is, a want of literary enthusiasm; but this, too, is national. Cold and cautious, the canny Scot is wary in his praises, and has a dread of individuality or egotism. This affects his judgment of writers of the romantic school as a class, but we have no idea that it ever consciously affects his opinions.

This work is valuable to the best readers, as a collection of short poems, if for no other reason. A well-selected anthology might be made up from it. We do not think the prose extracts are made with equal judgment; but they give a fair impression of the manners of the different writers. The typographical execution of the Cyclopædia is very neat, and the portraits well done; the engravings are almost equal to those in the original edition.

We hope the work will be universally encouraged, and afford a handsome return to the publishers.

*Twenty-eighth Annual Report and Documents of the New York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb.* New York : Egbert, Hovey and King. 1847.

THIS report of the Directors exhibits the institution in a flourishing condition. The whole number of pupils is two hundred and eight. The receipts for the year past were \$51,039 23; and the disbursements \$67,421 58. This includes twenty thousand dollars which have been borrowed and expended in making extensive additions to, and alterations in the buildings of the institution, rendered necessary by the large increase in the number of pupils.

Among the documents appended is the report of the examining committee of the board, which represents the intellectual and all the other departments of the institution in a highly satisfactory condition.

The instruction of the deaf and dumb, though of comparatively recent origin, has attracted considerable attention, both in this country and in Europe, and has made very rapid advances towards perfection. An able writer in the last

number of the North British Review presents, in very striking and forcible language, the peculiar condition and want of the deaf mute. He thus writes: "That the difference between a person thus circumstanced, and one who can hear, is sufficiently described in the summary statement, that the latter enjoys the sense of hearing which the former wants, is a position which the slightest reflection will show to be very far from the truth. It is not the want of hearing on the part of the deaf-born that constitutes the only difference between him and others, nor does this by any means constitute the chief difference. The want of hearing, simply, is in fact a defect of comparatively small moment—a privation of comparatively easy endurance: it is the want of language that creates the immense chasm between the uneducated deaf-mute, and the uneducated hearing person. Before the education of the latter commences, he is in possession of language, that is, of all the requisite apparatus for carrying on the work to any extent; the deaf-mute begins with absolutely nothing of this apparatus; it has to be constructed piece by piece, before him, and he cannot attain the familiar use of it, without years of assiduous application under a system of direct instruction of a peculiar kind."

This is directly to the point, and presents a view of the subject that is not often taken by those unacquainted with the mental condition of the deaf-mute. That it is the want of language, simply, that constitutes the difference between him and others, is evident on a moment's reflection. He has intellectual powers and capacities equal to those of his more favored companion. The mind is there, though its dormant faculties may have been but partially awakened and exercised. His means and opportunities for observation are the same, and, indeed, it may be generally asserted that, in the deaf-mute, the faculty of observation, like the sense of touch in the blind, is, by his necessity, greatly quickened, though, from lacking the power of comparing his observations with those of others, the results may be of little avail to him. He has, too, a language, but it is peculiar to himself, and though capable of being cultivated and expanded, and made a vehicle of thought and a means of communication with other minds, still in the case of the isolated and uneducated deaf-mute, it is limited to the narrow compass of the expression of his physical wants, and even then, is but partially and imperfectly understood. The ear, that great avenue of information to the mind, is closed: his mind must, therefore, be reached by addressing the eye. And to enable him to express his own thoughts, feelings, and emotions, he must be supplied with a language which those whom he addresses can understand, and of which he may avail himself in enlarging the sphere of his knowledge, by becoming acquainted with the results of the observations and experiences of others. But this can only be accomplished by making him acquainted with a written language; and to this end the wisest and most successful teachers of the deaf and dumb have directed their efforts. But to communicate to the deaf and dumb the knowledge of a written language is a task of no ordinary difficulty.

"Children," says the writer above quoted, "in general, learn language insensibly, and without effort, for nature is the teacher: but the deaf mute is precluded from her instructions, and is dependent upon the artificial schemes of man's devising. It is no easy thing to impart language to the deaf and dumb—to supply, by human ingenuity, what, through the ordinary channel, God in his wisdom has seen fit to withhold; and we may accordingly expect that, even when all that art can achieve has been accomplished, the result will still be marked with that imperfection which always attaches itself to every human performance."

But to accomplish his purpose, the teacher must establish a communication with the mind of his pupil. He must find some method of explaining those mysterious, and to him, unmean-

ing symbols which he presents to his eye in the form of written words and sentences. This means of intercourse, he finds in the natural sign-language of the deaf mute, and by care and cultivation it becomes all that he desires. By its aid, he is enabled to explain and illustrate the meaning of words, and to impart to his pupil all the information that is necessary to the general development and education of his mind.

A written language is, to the deaf mute, a foreign language, and the effort to express his thoughts in it, is a constant effort at translation. Hence the peculiar forms of expression which so frequently occur in the compositions of deaf mutes. It is the labor of a life perfectly to master a language. In the English language there are peculiar difficulties, arising from the numerous idiomatic forms and synonymous terms, often differing by the minutest shades of meaning. It cannot be expected that the deaf mute, in the limited time allotted for his education, however diligent, can become perfectly familiar with all these. His education is, in fact, but just begun when he leaves the institution. He has only learned the manual of that mighty weapon of thought—language; nevertheless, by unwearied practice in the arena of life, he may attain, as many already have, a skill and readiness in its use, which, under his peculiar difficulties, is, indeed, creditable to him.

We would commend the article, from which we have quoted above, to the attention of those who would examine an able and philosophical discussion of the whole subject of deaf mute instruction; and also the pamphlet, the title of which we have placed at the head of this notice, as affording evidence of what has been accomplished under the most judicious and philosophical system which has been devised for communicating to the deaf and dumb a knowledge of alphabetic language.

*Chefs-d'Œuvre Dramatiques de la Langue Française, mis en ordre progressif, et annotés pour en faciliter l'intelligence.* Par A. G. Collot. New York : D. Appleton & Co. 12mo., pp. 521.

A SEQUEL, and a very useful and appropriate one, to the numerous phrase books and miscellaneous extracts which are generally employed in connexion with the grammar in the preparatory studies of the language. The selection of dramatic passages for this new French Reader, is the best and only true method of proceeding; the pupil thus becoming insensibly master of the most delicate conversational terms and idioms, while the attention is continually awakened by the liveliness of the dialogue, and the interest of the plot. Teachers, we think, will find this an excellent class book. The vaudevilles of Scribe, the comedy of Molière, and the tragedy of Racine and Corneille, are well represented. The work is elegantly printed, and quite worthy of being transferred from the school satchel to the library shelf.

*The Life and Voyages of Christopher Columbus.* By Washington Irving. Abridged by the same. Including the author's visit to Palos, with a Portrait, Map, and other Illustrations. A new edition. New York : Harper & Brothers. 12mo., pp. 325.

THIS edition is very complete. The illustrations are, a portrait of Columbus; the representation of a Spanish Galley; a segment of Martin Behem's terrestrial globe; a sketch of a galley coasting the Island of Hispaniola, from a letter of Columbus, and supposed to have been drawn originally by his own hand; a vignette of the town of Palos, &c. The visit to the latter seaport, given entire, is one of the most delightful sketches Irving ever wrote.

*The Christian's Daily Treasury: a religious exercise for every day in the year.* By Ebenezer Temple, Rochford, Essex. From the second revised London edition. Boston : Gould, Kendall & Lincoln. 12mo., pp. 412.

THE author tells us in his preface, that he has carefully endeavored to avoid everything like a

sectarian or party spirit, and to present, not merely reflections on a portion of scripture for each day, but the heads and outline of a sermon which may supply the reader with profitable reflection. In the latter respect, the work shows the result of much care, and an earnest devotional spirit.

*The Christian Liturgy, and Book of Common Prayer; containing the administration of the Sacraments and the Rites and Ceremonies of the Apostolic Catholic, or Universal Church of Christ. With Collects and Prayers, and extracts from the Psalter, or Psalms of David. Also, a Collection of Psalms and Hymns for public worship.* Boston: William D. Ticknor & Co.: 1845. 18mo., pp. 464.

We are not informed of the history of this volume. It appears to be altogether an independent affair, thrown out "for the benefit of whom it may concern." It is recommended in the Introduction, to "new congregations of faithful men." A writer in the *Boston Transcript* calls it "*an eclectic hybrid*," in allusion to its free and easy adaptations of the Book of Common Prayer, with the interpolations of "liberal Christianity." It is a very confused affair, and without going into its theological merits or demerits, we must consider its use of the Book of Common Prayer on that ground, of the tendency to mislead by a title, as, to say the least of it, a very suspicious literary venture. The date, 1845, of a publication issued in 1847, is another inexplicable phenomenon in this decidedly peculiar undertaking.

#### AMERICAN ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The regular meeting of the American Ethnological Society was held on Saturday the 20th March, the Rev. Dr. Robinson in the chair.

The Secretary read letters from Edward Wm. Lane of Cairo, Egypt, and Professor Lassea of Berlin, accompanying donations of Oriental books. Donations to the library were also received from Dr. Morton of Philadelphia, and Dr. Klemm of Dresden.

A letter from Mr. E. G. Squier of Columbus, Ohio, was read, giving the particulars of the discovery of several sculptured rocks on the banks of the Guyandotte river, Virginia. These rocks are six in number, five of which occur in one group. The sculptures consist of birds, animals, and men, some of which were quite spirited, exhibiting more skill and taste than is usually shown in similar rocks in other parts of the country. "One of the rocks," says Mr. Squier, "bears the sculptured tracks of bears, deer, wolves, and turkeys, so truthfully executed that many would take them for genuine foot prints." The horizontal surface of these appears to have been sculptured, but they were so much worn by time, that the figures could not be distinguished. Drawings of the several rocks accompanied Mr. Squier's letter.

A communication was read from Mr. W. F. Van Amringe of Montgomery, New York, announcing the completion of a work by himself entitled "An Outline of the Natural History of Man," which he wishes to submit to the Society. Mr. Van Amringe states that his "whole plan is new and opposed to the theory of Blumenbach, his disciples and pupils. To give man his proper zoological station, he proposes to divide the class Mammalia into two sections or sub-classes—Psychical and Instinctive." He regards "man to be so little of an animal, that animal analogies, so freely used by the Blumenbachian school, to illustrate his theory, should be discarded altogether. "In a few particulars animals are the analogies of man; but they now extend beyond the particulars which unite them in a class—they never reach to what constitute the order, genus and species." He discards the geographical names, Caucasian, Mongolian, &c., of Cuvier, Blumenbach, and others, and substitutes the patriarchal ones, Shemitic, Japhetic, &c. Mr. Van Amringe proposed to send to the Society two or three of the first chapters of his

work, in which the outlines of his system would be fully developed.

Mr. Gallatin called the attention of the Society to a letter received by him from Mr. W. C. Prime, which was read. This gentleman described some interesting Indian remains examined by him in Galliopolis, Ohio; among them a rock on the spur of a mountain on the plantation of Gen. Steenbergen, which he believes was a manufactory of stone implements. This rock presents a flat surface of sixteen feet by eight, covered with deep grooves of various shapes and sizes, where weapons, hatchets, arrow-heads, and other instruments of stone were rubbed down to their proper shape. The grooves were deep and very perfect. Near this rock was one in the form of a basin, evidently intended to hold water. In the vicinity is a mound surrounded by a circular wall formed by earth thrown up from a trench inside, which is the reverse from the method usually adopted in such cases.

Rev. Dr. Robinson laid on the table the first number of a new translation of Josephus, by Dr. Traill, accompanied with notes by W. C. Taylor, and copiously illustrated from drawings taken in Palestine and Lycia, by Mr. Tipping. Dr. Robinson testified as to the accuracy of the beautiful engravings with which it was illustrated, as well as to the correctness of the translation, which he had compared with the original text. It elicited many remarks from the gentlemen present, by whom the undertaking was warmly commended.

Professor W. W. Turner read a short analysis of a work recently published in Italy by the Chevalier Lanci, on the ancient monumental inscriptions, entitled :

"*Trattato delle Sepolcrali descrizioni in Cufica, Tamurea, e Nischia lettera da' Maomettani operate: Composto dal Cavaliere Michelangelo Lanci.*" It forms a large and beautifully printed quarto of 204 pages, of which only 100 copies were struck off. The work, which is one of singular learning and ability, is divided into two parts, whose contents are briefly as follows :

"The *first part* comprises dissertations on several matters connected with the subject of the sepulchral inscriptions of the Arabs: such as, the forms of the monuments; the kinds of writing employed on them; the invocations to the Deity; the benedictions on Mohammed and his family, and the texts from the Coran which they contain; and especially a curious and elaborate account of the Arabian mode of marking dates. The following Arabian expressions for *he died*, are poetical, and not dissimilar to our own: 'he parted from his friends'; 'he bent his neck'; 'he left his place to others'; 'he bowed himself'; 'he disappeared'; 'he passed away'; 'he expired'; 'he perished'; 'he reached the goal'; 'he finished his course'; 'he went to rest'; 'the earth was smoothed over him'; 'he was covered up'; 'he ascended'; 'he took flight.' The author finishes this part by treating his readers to a new translation of the 7th-11th Sessions of Hariri, the most famous writer for wit and eloquence of which the Arabic language can boast.

"The *second part*. Here our author gives his reading and translation of thirty-six old sepulchral inscriptions in the Arabic language, accompanied by various learned remarks. One of the most interesting of them, on account of the ample Confession of Faith which it contains, is the following, now preserved in the Museum at Verona. The passages between single apostrophes are Coranic texts: 'In the name of God the most merciful. May God be propitious to the prophet Mohammed, and to his pure family, and to his elect companions, and abundantly bless them. Say, there is but one God, God the eternal, who has neither begotten, nor been begotten, and to whom there is no equal.' 'Say, this is a great announcement, from which ye turn aside.' 'Every soul must taste of death; nevertheless, ye shall receive your full rewards in the day of resurrection; and he who shall be

removed from Hell, and admitted into Paradise, shall assuredly be happy: but the life of this world is naught but a tissue of deceptions.' This is the tomb of Ibrahim ben Khalaf Aldebaji. He departed this life (lit. obtained his reward) on the night of the fourth day of the week, in the middle of the month Jomáda the first, in the year 464 (i.e. Wednesday, Feb. 8th, 1072); professing that there is no god but God, who alone has no companion, whose servant and apostle was Mohammed; and that Paradise is certain, and Hell is certain; and that the passage over es-Sirát is certain, and that 'beyond doubt the hour is approaching when God will restore to life all who are in the grave.' In this belief he lived, in this he died, and in this, if God so will it, he will rise again. May God have mercy on whosoever shall implore mercy and pardon for him. Amen, O Lord of the worlds present and to come." Lest the minds of his hearers should have become wearied by the dryness of the subject treated of, the author enlivens the close of his volume with a new and close version of the famous poem of Lamiat Alajem by Tograi."

Mr. E. H. Ludewig presented a beautifully executed drawing, being a complete restoration of the famous hieroglyphical tablet at Palenque, on which the cross is represented. This tablet is given in Mr. Stephens's Travels in Central America, where it is designated as in Casa, No. 2. This interesting monument had excited much curiosity in 1822, when it was first published by Del Rio; but very incorrectly given. Both these authors spoke of the tablet as broken and mutilated. Mr. Ludewig was so fortunate as to discover the missing parts of this stone in the national gallery at Washington, where it was deposited by Mr. Russell. They consist of five large stone slabs, of which Mr. Ludewig caused exact drawings to be made by Mr. G. Bruff of that city, which drawings, accompanied by a memoir, were laid before the Ethnological Society in December last, and which have since been sent by Mr. Ludewig to Paris.

By the restoration of these tablets, archaeologists have now one of the most interesting monuments of ancient America yet known. They consist of a large number of hieroglyphics arranged in perpendicular rows, cut with great precision, and a cross, resembling that of the Christians, with two human figures decorated in the most grotesque manner on either side, in the act of making an offering.

Mr. Schoolcraft stated that the memorial transmitted from this city to congress asking for a statistical and ethnological survey of the Indian tribes of the United States, had been recommended by the Indian Bureau, and had passed both houses. A liberal appropriation had been made, and Mr. Schoolcraft had been appointed agent to carry into effect the object in view. This plan had for a long time engaged the attention of the Society, and particularly of its venerable president, Mr. Gallatin, who has devoted much time to, and written much on the subject. The details of the plan, when arranged, will be laid before the Society.

Mr. Bartlett read the following paper on the late discoveries in that portion of Asia Minor anciently known as Lycia.

"This interesting region has been further explored by two English gentlemen, Lieut. Spratt, R.N., and Professor Forbes, who, accompanied by the Reverend E. T. Daniel, embarked from England in the year 1842, in H. M. ship Beacon, for the coast of Lycia, for the purpose of bringing home the remarkable monuments of antiquity discovered by Sir Charles Fellows.

"This gentleman, it will be remembered, was the first who in modern times successfully explored the interior. He visited the sites of many ancient cities and towns; copied numerous inscriptions, by means of which he was enabled to identify the names of fifteen out of eighteen cities; and made sketches of the most interesting sculptures and monuments.

"It is remarkable that a country so often spoken of by the Greek and Roman historians

should not have sooner attracted attention, when districts contiguous to, as well as far beyond, have been so thoroughly explored. The ruins on the southern coast of Asia Minor were first made known by Captain Beaufort, who discovered them when employed in making a survey of this coast. Several travellers subsequently made short excursions into the country; but it was not until Mr., now Sir Charles Fellows, in 1838 and 1840, made his visits and explorations, that the riches of the interior in historical monuments were disclosed.

"The relics of antiquity brought to light in these researches consist first of the ruins of large cities, many of which, by reason of their isolated situation among the high lands and mountains, seem to have been preserved from the destruction which usually attends depopulated cities situated in more accessible places.

"These ruined cities contain amphitheatres more or less spacious, and generally in a good state of preservation, temples, aqueducts, and sepulchral monuments, together with numbers of lesser buildings, the dwelling houses of the inhabitants. The ruins of Christian churches are also found in many places, and in one instance a large and elegant cathedral; the purposes of these are satisfactorily made out by their inscriptions; and the date of their erection, when not otherwise known, may be fixed by their style of architecture. The most numerous as well as the most interesting monuments of these ancient cities are their sepulchres. In some instances where a mountain or high rock is contiguous, it is pierced with thousands of tombs, presenting an appearance similar to Petrae in Idumea, sometimes called the city of the Dead. The roads in all directions are lined with tombs and sarcophagi, many of them covered with elaborate sculptures and inscriptions. It is by means of the latter, which abound and which exist in a fine state of preservation, that the names of the cities are identified and other historical facts brought to light. The following is a translation of the most common form of sepulchral inscription.

"THIS TOMB APOLLONIDES, SON OF MOLLISAS, MADE FOR HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN: AND IF ANY ONE VIOLATES IT, LET HIM PAY A FINE."

Coins, too, are found, which possess an historic interest.

In architecture, we find excellent specimens of the several Grecian orders, exhibiting both the perfection and declension of the art. The works of Sir Charles Fellows abound in architectural representations. A pointed arch was discovered by Lieut. Spratt and Professor Forbes in the interior of a tomb (a sketch of which is given) among the ruins of Antiphellas. This conclusively shows that this peculiar form of the arch was not first introduced with Gothic architecture, as has been generally believed, but belongs to a period anterior to the Christian era. An inscription in the Lycian and Latin was found on the monument.

The language of the ancient Lycians is an important discovery which has resulted from these researches. A bilingual inscription in Lycian and Greek first led to the key, and similar inscriptions, subsequently discovered, have furnished sufficient materials for ascertaining the value of the several letters of the alphabet, which consists of twenty-seven letters, two of which are still doubtful. Able disquisitions on the language have been written by Mr. Sharp and Prof. Grötfend.

In regard to the antiquity of the monuments, and the people who spoke the language called Lycian, now first made known through these inscriptions, we are enabled to arrive at conclusions which fix their era with some degree of certainty. The earliest inscription yet deciphered is a bilingual one, which consists of an edict, in which the name of Harpagus, or his son, a well-known personage, is mentioned; which would give a date of 530 to 500 B.C. This is about the period of the earliest arrow-head inscriptions yet known—namely, those at Behistun, of the age of Darius, deciphered by

Major Rawlinson. The language belongs to the same family as the Zend and old Persian, and is supposed to have been in use in the same age as the former, and along with that of the Persepolitan inscriptions. The sculptures, too, bear some resemblance to the figures on the Persian monuments, particularly the well-known figure with an umbrella, so common on the latter.

Other reasons are adduced by scholars for fixing the date of the Lycian language not before the fifth century B.C., or to the age of Herodotus. This historian was from the adjoining province of Caria; and, as might be expected, gives accounts of the Lycians before his time, but does not say that they spoke a language different from his own, or from that of the entire region: a fact that he would not have overlooked had such been the case.

It is believed that Cyrus, when he subjected this country, brought in some people from his Persian dominions, who afterwards became the dominant party, and introduced their language.

Herodotus, in speaking of the subjugation of Lycia, by Cyrus and Harpagus, says: "When Harpagus led his army towards Xanthus, the Lycians boldly advanced to meet him, and, though inferior in numbers, behaved with the greatest bravery. Being defeated and pursued into their city, they collected their wives, children, and valuable effects, into the citadel, and there consumed the whole in one immense fire. . . . Of those who now inhabit Lycia, calling themselves Xanthians, the *whole are foreigners*, eighty families excepted."—*Clio*, 176. See also *Clio*, 171-173.

Herodotus further states that the Lycians originated from the Cretans, a branch of the Hellenic race; and Strabo, in a fragment preserved from Ephorus, states that the Lycians were a people of Greek origin, who had settled in the country previously occupied by the barbarous tribes of Mylians and Solymi.

Homer briefly alludes to the Lycians, who, at the siege of Troy, assisted the Trojans under certain rulers whose names are mentioned.—*Iliad*, b. v. and xii.

It is surprising to find the names of these Lycian cities so well preserved when the descendants of its ancient inhabitants have been so entirely swept out of the country, and replaced by a people differing in manners, in religion, and having no interest connected with the locality to induce them to respect the relics or names, and keep alive the memory, of the former possessors of the soil.

### Miscellany.

THE South is a generous friend to the books of the North, and northern writers should occasionally, when a southern author comes before them, return the compliment. The mutual interchange of northern and southern opinions should be of advantage to both parties; but while the business of literature at the South is in the hands of New England men, as recently as the case with the editorship of the Southern Quarterly Review, we can hardly look for an expression of genuine Southern sentiment. The Charleston Southern Patriot exhibits a liberal sympathy, but not a whit more than its merits entitle it to, with the lately published volume of Essays by Mr. Jones.

"We have few essay writers in our country, and the number in England, except at one transient period in her history, has never been very great. That quiet, contemplative and musing spirit, which seems particularly to distinguish that of the essay writer, appears scarcely to answer the requisitions of an eager, impatient race, such as the Anglo-Norman. We think in action, and seldom, at any time, forego action in thought. The blood enters largely, with us, into the business of the brain. We may meditate, it is true, but we do it with staff in hand, knapsack on the shoulder, and as we are going forward. We philosophize by the way, but that does not prevent us from making conquests. The literature of a country is very apt to represent the popular spirit. It is not here, accordingly, that we can produce a plentiful crop of essay writers. Even in the periodicals, such authors seldom appear; —the short papers being generally analytical,

political, or sketchily descriptive. It is a rare thing to find a volume of full fledged essays issuing from the American press, as in the instance before us; and we examine it with equal care and curiosity. These essays are not wholly new to us,—nor is their author. We have the pleasure to know Mr. Jones personally, and his mind is one which, as we also know, has borne, and is capable of bearing, excellent fruits. The reader will be satisfied of this on the perusal of this very sensible and pleasing collection. The subjects are of pure literature always. Our author lives in the world of essayists wholly. He frequents the same chophouse with Steele, Goldsmith, and Savage. He takes his wine occasionally with Addison, and sips his tea with Dr. Johnson from the fragrant beakers of Miss Reynolds, and Mrs. Piozzi. Sometimes, he strolls, of a Sunday, with Barrow and Jeremy Taylor into the cathedral, and his meditations for the rest of the day relate to saints in lawn. Occasionally, by hop, skip and jump, we see him perched among the old dramatists, at their "righte merrie revels," and enjoying that fierce flesh and blood enthusiasm of the poetical nature, which it is not the habitual province of the essayists to delight in. The various and catholic are our author's tastes. Such are his subjects. His reading, in old English literature, is large and comprehensive. He sits down to it as to a feast. He fills himself with it, and it contributes to the strength and virtue of that which is native to his own talent. Mr. Jones thinks well, with force and judgment, though his range is necessarily limited. He philosophizes sensibly upon his studies, and applies the lessons of the past to the actual conditions of the day. He tries modern letters by the ancient and classical, rather too arbitrarily at times, and without always entering into the spirit, which, in our era, is progress and revolution. It is his fault, also, somewhat too greatly, to adapt the standards of the essayist, which imply the contemplative rather than the imaginative, to works of inventive fiction. We could object to many opinions in these two volumes, which we hold to be unhappy heresies, but we prefer that a work of so novel a character in our country, should go forth with as few of the embarrassments as possible. We welcome our essayist with smiles, and congratulate him on his successes."

OUR readers remember the sensation article in the "London Quarterly," which appeared immediately after the death of Theodore Hook, unmasking the social and domestic condition of the brilliant wit, and painting with more force than delicacy or propriety would have sanctioned, the melancholy "breaking up." A letter from his friend, the Rev. Mr. Barham, published in the new volume of the "Ingoldsby Legends," corroborates that unsparing narrative. The world little knows the cost at which it is amused.

"The death of Theodore Hook, which occurred August 24th, 1841, deeply affected Mr. Barham; a warm attachment had sprung up between them during an intimacy of twenty years, and he heard of the event that had dissolved it with the most heartfelt grief, not unmixed with something of a sinister foreboding as regarded himself. One of the last parties at which Hook was present was at Amen Corner; he was unusually late, and dinner was served before he made his appearance. Mr. Barham apologized for having sat down without him, observing that he had quite given him up, and had supposed that 'the weather had deterred him.' 'Oh!' replied the former, 'I had determined to come, *weather or no.*' He ate literally nothing but one large slice of cucumber, but seemed in tolerable spirits; and towards the end of the evening the slight indications of effort, which were at first visible, had completely disappeared. Mr. Barham saw him but once again; he spent the morning with him at Fulham about a month before his decease; and of this last in-

terview with one so universally admired and regretted, the particulars may not be unacceptable. They are thus given in a letter to Mrs. Hughes, written shortly after the melancholy event had occurred :

" Margate, Sept. 2, 1841.

" My dear Friend,—You do me more than justice in supposing that the loss of my poor friend would indeed cast a gloom over me : in fact, it came upon me like a thunder-clap, and I even yet can scarcely believe it real. On Monday, the 20th of July, I went down to Fulham, and spent the whole morning with him, having heard that he was out of sorts, and wishing to see him before I came down here, where I had promised to preach a sermon for the benefit of the 'Sea-bathing Infirmary.' That day month was the day of his funeral. I dreamt of no such thing then ; for though I could not persuade him to taste even the fowl which we had for luncheon, yet his spirits were so high, and his countenance wore so completely its usual expression, that I thought him merely laboring under one of those attacks of bilious indigestion, through so many of which I had seen him fight his way, and which I trusted that the run to the sea-side, in which he commonly indulged at this time of the year, would entirely remove. I was, I confess, a little startled, when he told me that he had not tasted solid food for three days, but had lived upon effervescent draughts, taken alternately with rum and milk, and Guinness's porter. There was something in this mixture of medicine, food and tonic, with the stimulants which I knew he took besides, though he said nothing about them, that gave me some apprehension as to whether the regimen he was pursuing was a right one, and I pressed him strongly to have further advice. He promised me that if he was not better in a day or two, he would certainly do so. He went on to speak of some matters of business connected with the novel he was employed on—part of which he read to me ; and much, my dear friend, as you, in common with the rest of the world, have enjoyed his writings, I do assure you the effect of his humor and wit was more than doubled, when the effusions of his own genius were given from his own mouth. Never was he in better cue, and his expressive eye revelled in its own fun. I shall never forget it ! We got afterwards on miscellaneous subjects, and then he was still the Theodore Hook I had always known, only altered from him of our college days by the increased fund of anecdote, which experience and the scenes he had gone through had given him. There was the same good nature, which was one of the distinguishing characteristics of his mind ; indeed, it has so happened that, intimate as has been our friendship for the last twenty years, since his return from the Mauritius renewed the connexion of our earlier days, I have been but rarely witness to that bitter and cutting sarcasm of which he had perfect command, and could employ without scruple when provoked ; the reason of this, perhaps, may be, that frequently as we met, it was either in a quiet stroll, or dinner by ourselves, or in the society of a few intimate friends, all of whom loved and regarded each other too well to give occasion for the slightest ebullition of temper. The only instances I can call to mind in which he has given way to any severity of expression have ever been in mixed company, and generally—with a single exception, perhaps, I might say universally—when undue liberties, taken by those whose acquaintance with him was not sufficient to justify the familiarity, drew from him a rebuff, which seldom made a second necessary. His friends could not provoke him.

" After more than three hours spent in a tête-à-tête, I got up to leave him, and then for the first time remarked that the dressing gown he wore seemed to sit on him more loosely than usual : I said, as I shook his hand, for the last time, ' Why, my dear Hook, this business seems to have pulled you more than I had perceived.' ' Pulled me !' said he, ' you may well say that ; look here,' and, opening his gown, it was not

without a degree of painful surprise that I saw how much he had fallen away, and that he seemed literally almost slipping through his clothes—a circumstance the more remarkable from the usual portliness of his figure. I was so struck with his change of appearance that I could not refrain from again pressing him to accompany me for a few days down here ; but he declined it as being impossible, from the necessity of his immediately winding up 'Peregrine Bunce,' and 'Father and Daughters' (the novel he was publishing in 'Colburn's Magazine') ; but he added, that in a fortnight or three weeks he should so far have 'broken the necks of them both' as to admit of his running down to Eastbourne, where, he said, 'he would be quiet.' Alas ! he little thought, or I, how quiet, or what his rest would be before the expiration of that term. I left him, but without any foreboding that it was for the last time."

An English gentleman, William Young, has just executed an agreeable task in the translation of one hundred of the Songs of Béranger. It is, we believe, the most extensive collection which has yet been made in English. Having the good fortune of access to the proof sheets of the work, we are enabled to present our readers with two specimens of the work in advance. The translator says, happily, in his Preface, "Béranger has been compared to Burns, and with justice. There is in them the same intense nationality, the same withering contempt for mere wealth and state, the same dear love of song, the same exquisite susceptibility to female charms, the same keen relish for convivial excitement." Recollecting the Jolly Beggars, we select the Bohemians.

#### THE BOHEMIANS.

" Jugglers, sorcerers, or thieves,  
Of an ancient world the scum,  
Jugglers, sorcerers, or thieves,  
Joyous Bohemians, whence do ye come ?

" Whence we come ? Man knoweth not.  
Whence the swallow, can ye tell ?  
Whence we come ? Man knoweth not  
Whither we go, ay, is this knowne well ?

" Without country, prince, or laws,  
Our career should envied be.  
Without country, prince, or laws,  
Man may be joyous one day in three.

" Independent we are born ;  
Unbaptized by Church are we ;  
Independent we are born,  
To the fife's shrill noise and merry glee.

" Our first steps are unrestrained,  
Here, where Error rampant stands,  
Our first steps are unrestrained  
By prejudice's old swaddling-bands.

" Those, on whom by tricks we prey,  
Every conjuring book can cheat ;  
Those, on whom by tricks we prey,  
Wizards and saints are right glad to meet.

" Find we Wealth upon the road,  
Gaily doth our band ask alms ;  
Find we Wealth upon the road,  
Gaily we sing, and stretch forth our palms.

" We, poor birds, whom God upholds,  
Spurned from cities let us be !  
We, poor birds, whom God upholds,  
Hang up our nests in the forest-tree.

" Love comes groping every night,  
And to bind us poll-moll strives ;  
Love comes groping every night,  
Binding us all to the ear he drives.

" Thou canst not lift up thine eye,  
Pasty pedant at an hour,  
Thou canst not lift up thine eye  
From the old cock on thine old church-tower !

" Seeing's having—up ! away !  
Wandering life can never pall ;  
Seeing's having—up ! away !  
For to see all is to seize on all.

" But to man, man ever calls,  
Let him kick, or frowny lie,  
But to man, man ever calls,  
'Thou art born, good-day ! thou art dead, good-bye !'

" When we die, God rest our souls !  
Lasses, lads, greybeards, old crones ;  
When we die, God rest our souls !  
Our bodies they sell to young Sawbones.

" We then, free from pride, have not  
Laws, are not in fetters bowed ;  
We then, free from pride, have not  
Cradle, or roof, or funeral shroud.

" But, our gaiety believe,  
Master, valet, priest, or lord,  
But, our gaiety believe,  
Liberty only can joy afford !

" Yes, our gaiety believe,  
Master, valet, priest, or lord,  
Yes, our gaiety believe,  
Liberty only can joy afford !"

To give the idiomatic felicity, the peculiar Horatian charm of these songs in any other language than their own, is perhaps impossible ; but it is something to catch now and then an echo of the original. The writer has modestly printed the French on the opposite page to his own version, not desiring to conceal his deficiencies. The simplicity and dramatic propriety of "Les Souvenirs du Peuple," are hazardous to meddle with, but there are many more who like to hear of Napoleon than can read French, and such may be grateful to Mr. Young.

#### THE PEOPLE'S REMINISCENCES.

" Oh, many a day the straw-thatched cot  
Shall echo with his glory !  
The humblest shed these fifty years  
Shall know no other story.  
There shall the idle villagers  
To some old dame resort,  
And beg her with those good old tales  
To make their evenings short.  
What, though they say he did us harm,  
Our love this cannot dim ;  
Come, Granny, talk of him to us ;  
Come, Granny, talk of him."

" Well, children, with a train of kings,  
Once did he pass this spot ;  
'Twas long ago ; I had, just then,  
Begun to boil the pot.  
On foot he climbed the hill, whereon  
I watched him on his way ;  
He wore a small three-cornered hat ;  
His over-coat was grey.  
I trembled, near him, till he said,  
"Good day, my dear"—'tis true.'

" Come, Granny, did he speak ?  
What, Granny ! speak to you ?

" Next year as I, poor soul, by chance,  
Through Paris strolled one day,  
I saw him go to Notre Dame,  
With all his court so gay.  
The crowd were charmed with such a show ;  
Their hearts were filled with pride ;  
What splendid weather for the fête !  
Heaven favors him ! they cried.  
Softly he smiled, for God had given  
To his fond arms a boy.'

" Oh, how much joy you must have felt !  
O Granny, how much joy !"

" But when at length our poor Champagne  
To strangers fell a prey,  
He seemed alone to hold his ground,  
And stand in danger's way.  
One night, as now, I heard a knock,  
And soon the door unbarred ;  
When, oh ! good God ! 'twas he, himself,  
With but a scanty guard.

" Alas, these wars ! these wars ! he cried,  
Whilst seated in this chair.'

" What ! Granny, Granny, there he sat ?

" What ! Granny, he sat there ?"

" I'm hungry," said he : quick I served  
Thin wine and hard brown bread ;  
He dried his clothes, and by the fire  
In sleep reclined his head.  
Waking, he saw my tears, and cried,  
"Cheer up, good dame ; I go  
'Neath Paris' walls to strike for France  
One last avenging blow."

" He went ; and on the glass he used

" Such value I have set,

" That I have kept it." "What ! till now ?

" You have it, Granny, yet ?"

" Here 'tis : but 'twas the hero's fate  
To ruin to be led ;  
He, whom a Pope had crowned, alas !  
In a lone isle lies dead.  
Long time they deemed it false, and said,  
" Soon shall he re-appear ;  
O'er ocean comes he, and the foe  
Shall find his master here."

" Ah, what a bitter pang I felt,  
When we our error knew !"

" Poor Granny ! God will kindly look,

" Will kindly look on you."

**The Fine Arts.**

THE Annual Report of the "transactions of the AMERICAN ART-UNION," for the year 1846, is published, and we find in it much to interest all lovers of the beautiful arts; and who among us is not, or rather, who among us will not be of this class, if we continue to advance at the same rapid rate that we have moved on within the past three or four years? Indeed, we may date the dawn of popular feeling in favor of art from the morning of the existence of this valuable institution. We say valuable, because we firmly believe, that it has contributed more towards the advancement of the higher walks of the art of painting, than all other causes combined. But a little while since our artists shrank in dismay from the prospects before them in the more elevated departments—such as the Historical, the dramatic, and the domestic class of subjects. Many a bold, original thought, cried in vain—like the starling, to be let out; and many a glowing picture grew into form and feature, assuming all the loveliness and splendor of the Old World and old time creations of master-minds in the throbbing brain, but, alas! grim poverty barred the passage, and they were doomed to die in the home of their birth. Artists among us labored on in their vocation of portrait makers, subsisting, bodily, upon the means thus acquired; and mentally, upon the remembrance of these buried children of their fancies—and a slender supper they sometimes had of it. Pictures were estimated, bought and sold like furniture; old pictures were rated like old crockery; and deteriorated according to the number of cracks in the canvas, while "span new," bright, chrome yellow and Prussian blue, French paintings (not pictures), represented the gilded and beflowered China ware and highly ornamented snuff-boxes.

Now, however, a more healthy taste is beginning to be developed, public attention is drawn to the subject of art, its claims to consideration are beginning to be recognised—the value of the mind's labor is more and more appreciated; and artists are fast arousing from their lethargy, and feel active and strong for the race that lies before them. Art is asserting its high prerogative throughout the whole range of Christendom; and a more auspicious period for its disciples never dawned than the present century. We believe we are now upon the verge of an era, which will eclipse even the brilliant glory of the sixteenth century. This may be thought an extravagant assumption; nevertheless, we are satisfied of its truth. And it requires but a glance at what is going on abroad, and even at home, to persuade any one into the same belief. The resources of art are becoming daily more and more developed; and the time is not far distant, when men will look for something in pictures beyond mere pleasing combinations of form and harmonic arrangement of colors. Everything in nature is becoming subservient to the laws of science; and the landscape painter will be required to give his landscapes a Geological and Botanical character; he must so represent nature that the quality of earth may be recognised—the classes of cloud formation—of rock—the anatomy and drapery of trees, shrubs and plants. The man who fails to impart individual character to all these, will be thought uneducated in his art; and fail to win the applause of the world. Nay, more! he will be charged with desecrating the high calling to which he has been chosen—but we are wandering from our subject.

On the topic of encouragement to artists,

in the pertinent remarks made by him on the occasion of the last annual meeting of the association, Mr. Bryant says:

"Our artists paint with a freer and happier pencil, they give us more and better pictures, because they know that they have a resource in our Institution. This result has been more marked and manifest during the past year than ever before. Hitherto it has sometimes been difficult to find a sufficient number of meritorious works of Art from which to choose for our collection, but during the past year the supply has always been equal to our means, and during the latter part of the season has exceeded them. We may claim, therefore, to have done something to awaken and call forth a genius for Art among our countrymen."

"All these large results—I might use a term of more pretension, and call them magnificent results—have been attained in a short space of time. It is but five years since that this Institution was at a point of extreme depression, quite in discredit with the public, and apparently ready to expire. At that time, several gentlemen of this city, friends of Art, stepped forward and addressed themselves to the task of retrieving its condition, and making it worthy of the favor of the community. I had the honor to be associated with them almost at the beginning of their work, but rather as a spectator and a learner, than as a helper: I saw them laboriously and patiently surmounting the many difficulties and discouragements which attended their undertaking, never remitting their labors, until at length the prosperity of the Institution, now rising rapidly under their hands, was fully assured, and they had given it an impulse which could scarcely fail to carry it forward to greatness. I must be permitted to say, without claiming the least part of the praise, for none of the merit was mine, that for this good service, they deserve well of the country and the age."

Mr. Bryant concluded his remarks by announcing, what all present heard with deep regret, that he was about to withdraw from the office that he had occupied for three years.

Mr. E. C. Benedict read the annual report, which embodied a clear and satisfactory statement of the position and prospects of the Institution—from which we learn, that the income for the year amounted to \$22,285.

"There were purchased from sixty-five artists, scattered from Boston to St. Louis, one hundred and forty-five paintings; varying in price from \$15 to \$600, and of the average cost of \$83; all richly framed, and distributed to one hundred and forty-two members: and all the subscribers will, in due time, receive copies of a fine line engraving, after Leutze's charming picture of 'Sir Walter Raleigh parting with his wife on the morning of his execution.'

We have seen an unfinished proof of the print. It promises to be one of the very best yet published by the association, and richly worth the amount of subscription.

The report continues :

"Our progress is also shown by comparing this year with the year 1841, when a vigorous effort was made to infuse new life into the drooping system of the Art-Union. At the annual meeting in that year were distributed seven works of Art, purchased of as many artists, at the aggregate cost of \$1,059, each member having one chance in one hundred and thirty-four of obtaining a work of Art. We this year distribute more than twenty times as many works of Art, purchased of more than nine times as many artists, costing more than eleven times as much, and the chance of each member for a picture is nearly five times as great, while the engraving is much more valuable than the one for that year, and the other advantages are also increased in a great degree. To those few remaining members of the Committee, who in that darker day labored on, in doubting and

humble but persevering industry, in the cause of Art, and to those subscribers who stood by them in the glimmering twilight of that dawn, the brightness of our present prosperity cannot fail to be a source of just pride and undisguised satisfaction."

To all who have the interest and successful operation of this association at heart, we would recommend attention to the following paragraph from the report :

"Our free gallery, as a place of resort for the members residing in New York, and for the members who are occasionally in the city, is a most efficient means of promoting the interest of the Institution. It is, however, impossible to make it interesting and attractive, before late in the year, unless the subscriptions are paid early. This year we have been compelled to purchase a large portion of the paintings on credit, and, early in the year, were obliged to borrow considerable sums of money to meet the current wants of the Institution."

There is one feature of this report which we heartily wish it were in our power to expunge, not because it has been improperly introduced, but because we regret that the circumstances demanding it ever occurred. We allude to the correspondence concerning Leutze's picture of "Columbus in Chains," and the part taken by its owner, defeating the original intentions of the artist and the just expectations of the public. It will be remembered that the annual Report for the year 1843 contained the following paragraph :

"The large picture of the Return of Columbus in chains to Cadiz, by Leutze, was painted in Germany, and exhibited in Brussels, and other cities on the Continent, where it received the high commendation which it merits. The artist could have sold it at a flattering price abroad, but he was desirous that it should be possessed by one of his countrymen, and he sent it home expressly for the Association, with the expectation of its forming the subject of one of their engravings. The Association reserves the right of engraving it whenever they wish to do so, and with this reservation it is distributed."

It was determined by the committee of 1844 to engrave the picture; and a contract was accordingly made with the engraver. After the labor of some two or three years had been expended upon it, the person who had drawn the picture, *subject to the reservation above-mentioned*, notified the committee, through his attorney, that it must be delivered up to him, and threatened, unless they complied with his requisition, to claim it with a writ of replevin. The committee, however, concluding that they might be involved in expensive litigation, and finding, on inquiry of the engraver, that the original estimate of the amount of labor required upon it was not ample enough for the purposes, very wisely came to the determination to give it up. The following letter was addressed by the President to the owner of the picture :

"NEW YORK, May 28th, 1846.

"Sir:—The letter from your attorneys to the American Art-Union, having given the Committee of Management to understand that you do not acknowledge the right of the Institution to retain the painting, *The Return of Columbus*, for the purpose of completing the engraving from it, now in progress, a Committee was appointed, of which I am Chairman, to act in relation to the subject.

"The Committee of Management consider the right to retain the picture for that purpose as perfect, it having been distributed expressly subject to that condition. The Committee, nevertheless, desire to proceed amicably in the discharge of their trust, and they cannot fail to see that a legal contest on the subject, in the manner indicated, must be fatal to our going on with the engraving, even if our right should, as

we doubt not it would be sustained in the end. It has, however, been just ascertained, that by no possibility can the engraving be completed in less than three years, or three and a half from this time, and it seemed that in fairness we should frankly state the fact to you; and the object of this communication is to do so, and to ask you to expressly consent or refuse to allow the Committee to retain the picture without molestation till the engraving shall be completed, we paying the premium for your keeping it insured at such valuation as you may please to put upon it, which is not to be considered as our valuation. The interest of all concerned renders it desirable that we should know without delay your determination, and as the Committee of Management will meet on Monday next, I shall feel obliged if you will reply in time to enable me to report your answer at that time.

"Please address me by mail.

"I am, sir, yours, respectfully.

"To which he received the following answer :

"PROVIDENCE, May 29th, 1846.

"Sir.—Your letter of the 28th instant is just received,—contents noted, and will be very briefly and I trust satisfactorily answered. I purposely avoid going into the merits of the case, but confine myself to your question, referring you to my attorneys for a more particular answer. I do most decidedly refuse my consent to the American Art-Union keeping my picture three or three and a half years longer to finish the engraving. And I ask from the legally authorized persons of the American Art-Union to give me as candid a reply to my questions, viz.: whether they agree to conform to my terms, as proposed by my attorneys, by delivering me the picture in one year from the time the proposition was made by them? Also, to inform me what they consider the fair value of the picture? And further, to give me in writing a release of all claim to the policies sent me, to enable me to recover, in case of loss, without first going into the proof of property. An early reply by mail will much oblige,

"Yours, respectfully."

Several months after the picture was surrendered, the Committee were informed that they would then be permitted to proceed with the engraving; but they believing, that in justice to the subscribers the risk of another failure could not be incurred, prudently declined the offer.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. Wm. J. Hoppin, at the annual meeting :

"Resolved, That it is the duty of this Association to use its influence to elevate and purify public taste, and to extend among the people, the knowledge and admiration of the productions of HIGH ART."

Mr. H., in support of his motion, offered some pertinent and eloquent remarks; and we regret that in accordance with the spirit of the resolution, and the comments of the gentleman who offered them, the Committee did not select some other subject for engraving than the "Jolly Flat Boatman"—the very name of which gives a death blow to all one's preconceived notions of "HIGH ART." The picture is tolerably well in its way; but it is by no means what a student in art would select as a standard of taste, and it contains no redeeming sentiment of patriotism. Nevertheless, it will please a portion of the subscribers, whose tastes are yet to be formed; and the engraving of the "SYBIL," from one of Huntington's best pictures, by Casalier, will amply atone for all that the other may lack. Mr. Casalier, since Durand abdicated the throne, is undoubtedly the best line engraver we have; and we anticipate something from his burin, which will reflect credit upon himself, and the judgment of the Committee.

There is only one thing in the picture of the Sybil, that we would be willing to have altered from what it is, and that is, the hand; it lacks graceful symmetry: would it be improper for Mr. Casalier, who is himself one of our most accomplished designers and draughtsmen, to exercise a little liberty with it? The head is so exceedingly fine, that we would be glad to see all the parts correspond. We said we had but one alteration to suggest, there is another we would venture upon; and that is, the form of the light on the bust, produced by its continuation from the neck over a piece of light falling drapery. We would suggest the propriety of either breaking the form of the outline of this drapery on the shoulder, or to slightly vary the line of the shoulder itself, just below where the neck articulates. It would greatly improve the contour of the bust; and the form of the mass of light would be more agreeable. We write this with the etching before us.

The remarks of Mr. Bigelow, contained in the report, were well timed, and we should be glad to make some extracts from them, as well as from those of Mr. Hoppin, did our space permit.

### Publishers' Circular.

#### NEW WORKS

##### PUBLISHED IN LONDON IN FEBRUARY.

**ARMY LIST.**—The New Annual Army List for 1847, being the 8th Annual Volume; containing the Dates of Commissions, and a Statement of the War Services and Wounds of nearly every Officer in the Army, Ordnance, and Marines, corrected to Dec. 28, with an Index. By Captain H. G. Hart, 49th Regiment. 8vo. pp. 560, cloth, 2s.

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**CASTLE OF EHRENSTEIN;** its Lords Spiritual and Temporal; its Inhabitants, Earthly and Unearthly. By G. P. R. James. 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.

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**COCHRANE (J.)**—The World to Come. 12mo. (Edinburgh), pp. 408, 5s.

**COXE (W.)**—History of the House of Austria, from the Foundation of the Monarchy by Rudolph of Hapsburgh, to the Death of Leopold the Second, 1218 to 1702. Vol. 1. pp. 544, 12mo. 3s. 6d.

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The new volume of MURRAY's Colonial Library is "Sketches of German Life, and Scenes from the War of Liberation in Germany," from the German. By Sir Alexander Duff Gordon, Bart. Murray has also issued, "Principles of Geography;" or, the Modern Changes of the Earth and its Inhabitants considered as illustrative of Geology. By Charles Lyell, F.G.S. 7th edition, revised, 8vo., with woodcuts.

The second part of Traill's Josephus, illustrated, published by Houston and Storeman, contains, The Commencement of the Jewish War, together with Explanations of the Plates. The Plates in this part are:—1. A Medallion of Pompey. 2. Remains of an Arch, springing from the Harem Wall, or Enclosure of the Temple, Jerusalem. 3. Elevation of the same. 4. Entablature and Ancient Masonry on the Southern Front of the Harem. 5. Double Archway, leading into the Vaults beneath the Mosque El Aksa. 6. Vaulted Passage beneath the Mosque. 7. Plan and Elevation of the Vaults and Passages. 8. South-East corner of the Harem.

G. P. R. JAMES' new historical work is "The Life of Henry IV., King of France and Navarre."

The publication of CHAMBERS's "Miscellany of Useful and Interesting Tracts" will terminate with the twentieth volume.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FROM LATE FOREIGN JOURNALS.

The day after the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, at which M. Alexandre Dumas was handled rather roughly by some of the members, he resolved to demand an explanation from one of them, M. Leon de Malleville. With that object he wrote to request the aid and support of M. Viennet, as president of the society of literary men. M. Viennet rejected the application, alleging as his principal motive, that M. Alexandre Dumas, before the civil tribunal of the Seine, had to a certain degree renounced his title of man of letters to assume that of marquis. For himself, M. Viennet, he would sooner resign the peerage than the honor of calling himself a man of letters. This refusal put an extinguisher on the project.

The King of Bavaria announces a fourth volume of poems. Considering that he is sole editor of the kingdom, and that he takes all its affairs, including the theatres, into his own hands, one wonders how he finds time (or imagination) for so much verse.

Jenny Lind is still exciting the enthusiasm of the Viennese. The manager of the theatre has had a medal struck in her honor with an admirable likeness of the Swedish nightingale on one side, and on the other, a swan resting on a laurel branch, and a star with the inscription, *Nescit occasum*.

Lolla Montes, the famous *dansuse*, has crowned her notoriety by turning out the whole Bavarian ministry! The king, it must be remembered, is a poet and has his tastes, and a despot, too, and will not be denied. The *dansuse* demanded the title of the Countess of Starenberg, for which the king with his own hand wrote out an order, annexing to it one of the finest domains of the Crown. The ministers refused to countersign an order which they thought compromised the king's dignity; and so they are all out. The king's conduct in this transaction has been so eccentric, that some of his subjects do not hesitate to ascribe it to insanity.

At the Tacon theatre, Havana, the authorities have imposed a penalty of fifteen days' imprisonment for any person calling for an encore, and demanding the presence of an artist before the curtain. This penalty might be introduced at European theatres with great advantage to put down the organized *claqueuses*.

A number of noblemen and gentlemen in the East Riding of Yorkshire, interested in the breed of horses and the sports of the field, are about to purchase Grant's painting of the venerable Sir Tatton Sykes, and present it to the Honorable Baronet as a testimonial of their regard. Count Leopold Ferdi died lately at Padua, leaving behind him an extraordinary library, consisting of nearly 32,000 volumes, all written by female authors.

Mrs. Butler has entered into short engagement to appear at the Princess's Theatre. It is rumored that negotiations are to be opened with Mr. Macready to assist at her performances; but there is not much likelihood of terms being agreed upon between the high contracting powers.

Signora Albini, the famous contralto, has been creating a sensation at Venice. When her engagement terminates there, she comes immediately to Covent Garden.

The valuable musical library of the late Mr. Alsager has been purchased by a noble member of the Musical Union. It is very rich in concerted music for chamber and orchestral performances, and embraces nearly the entire published works of all the great composers.

Pauline Viardot Garcia is in Berlin, at the beautiful

theatre there, enchanting everybody in the German Opera, a great triumph over a difficult language. Cerito is there in the ballet.

The new Italian Opera in Barcelona, for which Marie Rossi Cassin is secured as principal singer, opens in the spring. It is described as the most splendid theatre in Europe.

The Opera-house was full on Thursday night; the profits of which were devoted to the funds for the Irish. Her Majesty and Prince Albert were present, and perhaps, on no former occasion were there so brilliant an assembly of rank and fashion within the walls of that establishment.

A renter's share in Covent Garden, entitling the holder to free admission, was sold on Thursday for 205*l.* The term of this share is fifty years, and the possessor is entitled to an annual payment of 25*l.*, which will be paid almost for certainty during the six years' lease of the present management.

Dumas's New Theatre Historique in Paris opened on Tuesday night. There was a dreadful crush. The curtain was to have risen at half-past six, but was delayed till seven for the arrival of the Duke de Montpensier, when it instantly rose. The piece by Dumas and Maquet, called *La Reine Margot*, lasted till three o'clock in the morning! It was entirely successful.

**STATUE, BY MR. H. POWERS.**—We have been very much pleased with a statue in marble, to be seen at Messrs. Graves', in Pall-mall, of a Neapolitan Fisher-Boy:

applying to his ear  
The convolution of a smooth-lipp'd shell  
To which in silence hush'd his very soul  
Listens intently.

This very poetic figure is the work of Mr. Hiram Powers, an American artist, resident in Italy, and already favorably known in this country by his statue, recently exhibited, of the Greek Slave Girl. To our thinking this is an advance in his art. The attitude is easy, the conception poetic, the drawing generally good, and the whole treatment throughout perfectly original. The Neapolitan Fisher Boy belongs to Mr. Stephenson, the celebrated engineer, and was a commission given by that gentleman while the work was yet in plaster. The idea was suggested, no doubt, by a beautiful passage in Mr. Landor's poem of "Gebir," but the lines from Wordsworth, already quoted, would seem to suit it better.

**MR. COBDEN IN ROME.**—A splendid dinner was given to Mr. Cobden on the 10th inst., in Rome, by many of the nobility and some of the most illustrious citizens of that august capital. It was held in the Chamber of Commerce, the Marquis Potenziani taking the chair. The allusions to the liberal policy of the Pope, and to the triumphs of Mr. Cobden, were received with enthusiasm. It was curious to hear Mr. Cobden on the banks of the Tiber telling the people of Rome that the account books of the English merchants were kept upon the Italian model, and that the street of the bankers in London still bears its Italian name—Lombard-street!

The Emperor of Russia has forwarded to Paris blocks of porphyry hewn from quarries belonging to the Crown, to be used in the proposed monument to Napoleon at the Invalides.

A letter from Freiwalder, in Austria, of the 8th, states that the celebrated hydropathist Preissnitz had just suffered a stroke of apoplexy, and that his life was in great danger.

Mrs. Jameson and Lady Duff Gordon are passing the winter in Rome.

W. J. Fox, the "liberal" Preacher and Political writer, is dangerously ill in London.

Sharon Turner, the eminent English historian, died on the 13th of last month, in the 79th year of his age. His Anglo-Saxon History, The Middle Ages, The Sacred History of the World, and a Modern History of England, are considered among his best productions.

Mr. Macvey Napier, for 20 years an editor of the Edinburgh Review, a Professor of Conveyancing in the University, and editor of the 7th edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, died on the 11th of last month.

Captain Dillon, a celebrated French navigator, the discoverer of the relics of La Peyrouse and his companions, died a few weeks since.

## AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

**Smithsonian Institute.**—Messrs. Dixon of Washington and Gilbert Cameron of this city, have taken the contract for erecting the edifice of the Smithsonian Institute at Washington. It is to be 300 feet long, about 100 wide, the main buildings two stories high, and the towers 100 to 140 feet. The Museum and Grand Hall in the second floor will be nearly 300 feet long and 27 to 30 feet high.

The whole is to be built of Potomac freestone (obtained near Washington), is to be rendered fire-proof and finished in the richest and most thorough manner. The style is that known as the Lombardy Norman. James Renwick, Jr., of our city (son of Prof. Renwick), is the architect. The edifice is to be completed in the course of five years; the estimated cost is about \$210,000.

**Monument to Captain Lawrence.**—The corporation of Trinity church have just erected, at a cost of some seven hundred dollars, a very handsome monument over the remains of the gallant LAWRENCE. It is of brown freestone representing a sarcophagus on an oblong base. On one side is the starboard quarter of a man-of-war, with her guns standing out in bold relief. On another are an anchor and sword encircled with a wreath of laurel. Inscriptions, commemorating his gallant services on board the Hornet and Chesapeake are on the tablet, and on one side, is an inscription in honor of Lieut. Augustus C. Ludlow, who was second in command on board the Chesapeake.

peake. The monument is very tasteful, and reflects great credit on the corporation.—*Courier*.

The *Albion* has the following obituary notice of the late E. W. Hoskin, Esq., whose translation of Van Lennep's novel was reviewed in a late number of the Literary World: "Died, at Port Jarvis, Orange county, New York, on the 8th instant, E. W. Hoskin, Esq., formerly assistant editor of the New York Courier and Enquirer. Mr. Hoskin was a native of London, and went early in life to Holland, where he resided in a mercantile capacity, but ultimately removed in consequence of the wars which then desolated Europe. He resided some time in France, and then removed to the United States—living first in Charleston, next in Philadelphia, and latterly in New York. During his residence on the continent he acquired a thorough knowledge of the French and Dutch languages. The *Courrier des Etats Unis*, French paper in this city, was planned, established, and for some time conducted by him. During twelve years, he was the chief assistant editor of the *Courier* and *Enquirer*; and in 1843 and 1844 he rendered us his able assistance in the *Albion*. Mr. Hoskin was a gentleman of fine taste, extensive reading, and sound judgment; and, in point of disposition, was one of the most honorable and most amiable men that ever lived. We do not think that he has left a single enemy behind him. For the last few years of his life he was in feeble health, but he, nevertheless, found leisure to translate into English the Dutch novel of '*The Adopted Son*' by Van Lennep, an author of very considerable celebrity. The translation, we learn, has a ready sale, and the work meets general approbation. Mr. Hoskin was a widower, and has died without issue. He married a lady of Philadelphia. A large circle lament him, for he was a sincere friend, and an honest and noble-hearted Englishman."

Dr. Judson and his bride (Fanny Forrester) arrived at Burnside, after a passage of 139 days.

The new five-act comedy, announced for the Park, the *Mirror* says, is no comedy at all, but a tragedy of the domestic order, translated from the German, and adapted to the American stage, by Mrs. E. F. Ellet. Wissmuth & Co. is the title of this production.

*New Orleans Dinner to Mr. Murdoch.*—One of the highest compliments ever paid to the profession of the Actor, was bestowed in the dinner given to Mr. Murdoch on the 2d instant, at New Orleans, presided over by the Governor of the State, and having among the company many of the Chief Judges, Lawyers, Senators, and citizens of the Crescent City. An able and eloquent speech, complimentary to the drama and Mr. Murdoch, was delivered by S. S. Prentiss; and altogether the occasion was the most brilliant of the kind known in New Orleans. Mr. Murdoch is now, we understand, on his route to this city, by way of the Mississippi.

Mr. Forrest has played an engagement at the Park during the last week, opening with *Richeleieu*, succeeded by Othello, Spartacus, Damon, Lear and Metamora.

**ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.**—At the last session of the Academy, Wednesday evening, March 17, there were elected fifteen delegates to the National Medical Convention. This convention, which will represent the Medical profession throughout the United States, is to meet in Philadelphia in May. Its object is the advancement of the education of physicians. With this view it is understood that the property of separating the licensing from the educating power will be agitated. There is a strong sentiment in favor of such a separation.

An able paper read by Dr. Mott was an appropriate beginning to the scientific proceedings of the Academy. The subject was the use of the seton in ununited fractures. An American Surgeon, Dr. Physic of Philadelphia, was the first to employ this mode of treatment, which, according to Dr. Mott, is more effective than the blister, electricity, motion, and other means for the same end. In twelve cases treated by Dr. Mott, there were only two that were not cured. This is a much greater degree of success than by any other mode. The seton is only applicable in cases where the ends of the fractured bone are close to each other. When they are at a distance, Dr. Kearney Rodgers's method of approximating them by means of a wire passed through their ends, is, in Dr. Mott's opinion, the best. These modes of treatment of ununited fractures by seton and the wire are not fully appreciated in Europe; but in this country where they were first employed, they are found to excel all others. Dr. Mott sustained his views by a series of well-attested cases.

Dr. Storrs gave notice of his intention to bring before the Academy at an early period the subject of the necessity of moisture being combined with heat in the artificial warming of buildings and apartments. This opens up for future consideration a question of general interest and importance.

The close of last week a meeting of the citizens of Brooklyn, was held, Cyrus P. Smith, Esq., presiding, to provide for the erection of an astronomical observatory in that city—towards which object it was resolved that the sum of \$40,000 should be raised. After speeches by Dr. Cox, Mr. Van Cott, and other gentlemen, a subscription was taken to the amount of \$3,000.

#### AMERICAN LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

**MESSRS. HARPER & BROTHERS** announce on the arrival of the steamer, James's Life of Henry IV.; Mrs. Ellis's Prevention Better than Cure; Smith's French Pronouncing Dictionary; Experience of a Jail Chaplain; Schmitz's History of Rome; Sketches of German Life; The Playmate; George Lovell by Knowles; Pardoe's Louis XIV.; Howitt's Homes and Haunts of the Poets; Orators of the Age; Memoirs of Lord Lovat; Crox's Cyclopaedia of Civil Engineering; Nicolas's Royal Navy; Connaught Rangers; Heeren's Ancient History; Knibb's Memoirs; Smyth's Cycle of Astronomy; Tardy's French Dictionary by Tarver; The Poacher's Wife; Pascal's Posthumous Papers; Knight's Farmer's Library; Tales by a Barrister;

Home Influence; Lilly Dawson, a Tale; History of the Girondists; Aristocracy of England."

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M. H. NEWMAN & Co. will publish on the first of April President Hitchcock's "Geology," which has been for some months out of print. The work has been thoroughly revised and adapted to the improved state of the science at the present time, and will be printed from new plates. Also "Willson's Juvenile American History," a book of 160 pp., small quarto, beautifully illustrated, intended for use in the schools of this country. Mr. Willson is the author of the larger work on American History favorably noticed in the last number of the Literary World.

Messrs. WILEY & PUTNAM will publish Leigh Hunt's new work, "A Jar of Honey from Mount Hybla" simultaneously with its appearance in London. Also Dr. Beattie's promised "Life of Campbell" in the course of the season. They have also purchased the proof sheets of a new work by Mrs. Butler, late Fanny Kemble, "Travels in Italy, with Original Poems;" and also a new book by a daughter of Wordsworth, entitled "Journal of a few months' residence in Portugal, and Glimpses of the South of Spain, by a Lady." They have received also, "One Hundred Songs of Pierre Jean de Beranger, with translations by William Young." Their publication of Hazlitt's Napoleon is now complete by the issue of the two concluding parts.

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HENRY KERNOT has received for subscribers the March number of the "Southern Literary Messenger," of which he is now the New York Agent.

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Messrs. LEA & BLANCHARD make numerous important announcements, for the particulars of which we must refer to their last week's advertisement in this journal. Among them are Sir George Simpson's Overland Journey Round the World; Bird's Natural Philosophy; Croly's History of the Patriarchal Religion; Williams's Boys' Treasury of Sports; Endless Amusements, a companion volume to the Philosophy in Sport; Southwood Smith's Philosophy of Health; Caesar's Commentaries being the first of Chambers's Series of Latin and Greek Classics, with various new works of a scientific, legal and medical character.

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DANIEL BIXBY, Lowell, has sent us a copy of his highly creditable edition of "Southey's Chronicle of the Cid," which we shall take an early opportunity of writing about at length.

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